

acre places, most of those fellows went broke. You can't buy the machinery and farm now days on 150 acres or 160, whatever the limitation is. Even the 320 is pretty small.

You have got to use modern machinery and if you do, you've got to have a big enough operation to pay for it, so there is some question.

Senator McGOVERN. What size unit would you suggest would be economical, Mr. McNenny?

Mr. McNENNY. Well, that depends on what type of crops you are raising. For corn and alfalfa, I would say 400 acres at least, 400 to 500 acres would be required to keep a family on the farm.

Senator McGOVERN. Even under irrigation?

Mr. McNENNY. Yes. We have our own place and we have a couple hundred acres of irrigated alfalfa and we don't farm and raise livestock, but where you are strictly in the farming business, I think it would take at least 400 or 500 acres.

I think we should make a thorough study in these places like Angostura, where it was divided into smaller areas.

Senator BURDICK. History has shown, Mr. McNenny, that very little grain is raised in irrigation plots. It is strictly feed crops and sugar beets and things of that nature.

Mr. McNENNY. Well, some grain.

Senator BURDICK. General rule, though, not very much.

Mr. McNENNY. A quarter section of sugar beets is a lot of farming, but a quarter section of irrigated corn or alfalfa, there is not much there.

Senator BURDICK. The theory behind the 160 acres is that you spread more benefits to more people.

Mr. McNENNY. That was all right 50 years ago, but I think it should be repealed at this time or modified so people can make a living on these places and if they are going to limit them, and, as I understand the law, that if you don't do anything by limiting your land to 160 acres within 10 years, the Federal Government does it for you.

Senator BURDICK. No.

Mr. McNENNY. That was my understanding of it.

Senator BURDICK. The 10-year provision of this bill is that you shall not dedicate this land to crops that are receiving Government supports for 10 years from the time of the enactment, but if a demand for what continues, maybe that may be meaningless.

Mr. McNENNY. We filed one statement and I think maybe we shall file a little more.

And I think I would certainly urge you make a study of the areas such as Angostura and try to try something here that would limit the cost of the water and also make the unit big enough so that people can live on them under whatever type of farming they are trying to do.

Senator McGOVERN. I think these are legitimate questions you have raised here and things we ought to look into carefully when we get into the hearings later on this year.

I would say this in passing: I can't recall in the years I have been in Washington, and maybe Senator Burdick can correct me on this, of any group coming into our committee to appeal for the end of an irrigation project. In every instance I know of where there have been

some problems and difficulties, the general consensus is that on balance it has been a gain over the former system. They have wanted adjustments, but not termination of the project.

But, we will, of course, take into consideration any experience that we have had in South Dakota or elsewhere to the contrary.

I am sure that information will be to be made available to the committee.

Mr. McNENNY. I was down in the Angostura area about a week ago and I found that was the biggest complaint they had; that the places were too small. There are 120 acre and 150 acre places where nobody was living and they have tried to lease the land to someone else, now.

Senator BURDICK. We have used in some of our projects the formula of 160 acres. You might have a different class of land. We haven't done that in a few projects, but we have never departed from the concept because it requires a major revision of all the projects.

Mr. McNENNY. It is something, though, I think is outdated in this day because we find we have to go to bigger farms on dryland farming. I don't want you to find that I am against irrigation 100 percent, because I am not and I am doing it myself, but the cost is something that should be gone into thoroughly, too, because it can become a problem.

Senator McGOVERN. I agree with that and I think they are good observations and ones that ought to be taken into consideration.

Mr. McNENNY. Thank you very much.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you.

Mr. E. L. Schultz is next.

STATEMENT OF E. L. SCHULTZ, REDFIELD, S. DAK.

Mr. SCHULTZ. Mr. McGovern and Senator Burdick. I believe the last time I had dinner with you was about 6 years ago when we were working on the centennial, and I wanted to just kind of review a little bit.

I am E. L. Schultz, from Redfield, S. Dak. About 25 years ago we heard Sloan talk about building this Oahe Dam and he said by the time it was completed you would have a channel all the way to Spink County and off in this neck of the woods, and, of course, it hadn't developed that way, but the dream is developing.

About 22 years ago I was appointed from this area because of this possible large area to be irrigated, as a member of the irrigable farmers committee. There was one from each of the 13 States including South Dakota, and so I did attend the meeting at Salt Lake City and out on the west coast and learned a great deal about it and served on this for 1 year.

I did go to the Belle Fourche area to develop a little knowledge of irrigation because I was quite dumb about it. But I just comment on that and I thought I would tell you about it.

I started farming, of course, when I was 17 years old. My father died and, of course, we have done very little irrigation. My brothers irrigated for about 12 years.

I want to say this, that it has been a great privilege to listen in on this, and I am in the insurance business now, and live in town and still

own a farm, and I thought in just telling it that from my experience and now the dream is going to come true in this area.

You know, they talk about these great changes and the Indians realize the change, too. A young Indian guy came into a store and he said he wanted to buy a pair of trousers and the saleslady held up the trousers so he could see them, and he said, "Huh uh, a zipper, no, brother buy zipper on his jacket and cut his necktie off."

So, I appreciate you fellows coming down and I did think I would appreciate the privilege of taking the time to tell the little experiences I had in regard to this irrigation project, and it's been a great privilege in being here.

Thank you.

Senator McGovern. Thank you very much, Mr. Schultz.

Do we have any other witnesses now?

STATEMENT OF ADAM REINSCHMIDT, HURON, S. DAK.

Mr. REINSCHMIDT. Senator McGovern and Senator Burdick. There was a little mixup, it seems. I indicated that I wanted to testify and also left a note and neither one of them got through.

I am Adam Reinschmidt from Huron, S. Dak., living in the eastern part of the county under one address for some 65 years. We raised our family out there and ended up with one youngster on the farm, now, and the rest of them the industry and professions absorbed them out of the State. We are one of the typical of many families in our area.

In 1920 we had about 60 some families in our township and today we got to count some twice to make 20. We have about 18 or 20 families left and that leaves a place quite depopulated.

I represent the Beadle Electric Cooperative here today and its 1,800 members, and I am going to file a prepared statement, but I'd like to make a few remarks of my own in connection with them.

We are also quite deeply rooted in North Dakota, in Senator Burdick's State, and my grandfather homesteaded in North Dakota. Their names are Wolfs, and as yet North Dakota has not seen fit to put a bounty on them, so they are getting along pretty well up there.

We endorse the Oahe irrigation project and consider it one of the most important developments of South Dakota.

Although we are not in the initial irrigating plan, we hope and we are hopeful that we will be included in further development of irrigation.

We further believe that the economic gains will result from bringing of water to the land, thereby stabilizing the economy of the State through the production of crop storage periods of drought. I wish to state that I went through the drought period of 1911, 1926, 1934, 1935, 1933-34, and 1936 and the most recent was 1964, in which we did not harvest any crops in our area and we therefore are very interested in seeing water.

The Bureau of Reclamation has a pilot well within a mile of my ranch and it is operating today. A farmer there uses it and he raises crops when we don't raise anything and we are very hopeful that we will be included in that in the future.

Irrigation will also provide the feed supply for the surrounding un-irrigable areas during prolonged drought and recharge the water

supply both in the surface and on the ground for domestic and live stock areas and smaller recreational areas in this area.

We lose an average of two out of three corn crops, and I am speaking of the area in eastern Beadle County, due to the dry periods in eastern South Dakota. We feel there is no better money spent than bringing water to the land, especially now that a shortage of food is predicted in the next decade.

It provides loans and grants in the drought stricken areas and creates more employment in the area of the population and increases and reverses the flow of implication from rural to urban areas to seek employment. Also, it will attract related industry to this area which the State so badly needs.

Much of the cost of irrigation development will be required by the Government through water-use payments. New taxes from individuals and new industries and community farmers but, most of all, I reiterate that it will provide means by which more food and fiber can be grown on less land than before, as we are losing much productive land through new housing and highways and industrial expansion.

The light and power that we receive from the development that has taken place so far has created, and all been absorbed, and additional powerplants are being constructed and are planning or being constructed, which pays for much of this development in this area insofar as the cost as a secondary factor to the needs and wants of the particular area.

It cuts down crop losses; the population will be more stable; our young people will enjoy recreation in this area.

There is always a help toward getting them to stay on the farm. We have much trouble in keeping young people in relation to older people, on the farm, and I am just filing a statement here and that is all I have to say and thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

I am a farmer from Yale, S. Dak., here today as a member of the board of directors of Beadle Electric Cooperative, Inc. Our cooperative has the task of providing electric power for virtually every corner of the rural area of Beadle County. This amounts to something like 1,900 families, or perhaps a full 6,000 people.

Very few members of Beadle Electric Cooperative will receive direct benefits from this project. But their life can improve as that of the entire region is improved by Oahe. Perhaps in a later stage, 600 or so acres may be irrigated in our county. There will be some canal mileage and two pumping plants in our county, and the Byron Reservoir will be enlarged.

Our cooperative has been a consistent supporter of the Oahe project. We want to see the fish and wildlife and recreation benefits it will bring. We want to see the water supply in central South Dakota made more dependable. And we want irrigation to help stabilize the economic stabilization, perhaps is greatest of all the benefits of irrigation, instead of depending on the accident of nature—rain that may come or may not come—a great part of the year. Livestock feeders in our county would have an assured supply of feed.

Yields of most crops could likewise increase. In Beadle County we have watched the steady increase in the use of irrigation by individual farmers who have independent sources of water supply. The county average yield for alfalfa is about 1.5 tons per acre. Irrigators now

consistently average 4.4 tons per acre and we expect 5 to 6 tons to be common some day, for irrigators.

Corn will average 33 bushels to the acre on dryland acreage; 83 bushels to the acre on irrigated land. Sorghum can produce 38 to 40 bushels to the acre on dry land—a few initial crops of beginning irrigators are producing 89 to 90 bushels of sorghum per acre.

Beadle Electric Cooperative also is very much excited about the increased employment which such a project can bring about. It is a fact of life that all of our sons and daughters do not have the same opportunity to get into farming that we once had. We need to give them opportunities that do not now exist. Oahe would create not only more farming opportunity but a wealth of new jobs in agricultural processing and farm-related service industries.

We are attaching a copy of a resolution by which Beadle Electric adds its official support to the project. We ask that you take back to your full committee and to the whole Congress our plea that this necessary project be authorized and funded with great speed.

Thank you.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION OF THE BEADLE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of Beadle Electric Cooperative urge early development of the Oahe Irrigation Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project and request immediate consideration of this unit by the Congress.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, Edward Fritzsche, Secretary of the Beadle Electric Cooperative, Inc., hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution which was duly passed at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held August 17, 1965.

EDWARD FRITZSCHE, *Secretary*.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you so much. We are sorry we lost your name and request here earlier, but we are glad you were able to testify.

Who is next?

STATEMENT OF E. M. YOUNG, McLAUGHLIN, S. DAK.

Mr. YOUNG. I am E. M. Young from McLaughlin, S. Dak. I have farm interests in western Sully County. I want to address this to Senator McGovern and Senator Burdick.

I didn't ask for a place here, but being there is a little extra time. I would like to represent myself as an excess-land owner.

There has been so very little said here today about excess-land owners.

I am afraid maybe we would be forgotten and it seems that what has been known, I think, is the Small Bureau Act of 1965, which has the prospect of giving the excess-land owner some relief relative to getting irrigation.

I have been making some quite detailed study, but I haven't got it completed and it seems to me that the big acreage that should come under irrigation in South Dakota is nearer the reservoir.

Now, I have nothing against what has been said here today relative to this valley, the Jim River Valley irrigation, but we have broad acres

of good land that's nearer the water. It's my opinion it could be irrigated as cheap or cheaper and that needs to be seriously considered; ways and means to bring it into irrigation.

I intend, now, after hearing this, these testimonies today, to write a paper and try to get it in, in time to be a part of this hearing.

Senator McGOVERN. You will have plenty of time. We will see that your paper is made a part of the hearing record whenever we receive it.

Mr. YOUNG. Thank you very much. It seems to me—I want to make one more statement—that there has been so much said here today about time, when and how long it would be before this project in the Jim River Valley here might become a reality. At best, it seems to be several years off. It seems to me they could be—well, I'll say, large acreage under irrigation put under production along the reservoir much sooner. We have natural drainage. We have wetlands, and we have access to the same water.

I and my family are undertaking to irrigate some this year that is near the water so we are starting our projection to experiment with what we might be able to do.

I believe that is all I have to say. I just want to avoid having the excess land owner of South Dakota left clear out. There has been a little said here today, but very little.

Senator McGOVERN. We appreciate your comments and your testimony.

Now, we have time for one more person, I believe here. Yes, we have a gentleman here.

STATEMENT OF FRED KLICKEK, WOLSEY, S. DAK.

Mr. KLICKEK. Honorable Senator McGovern and Senator Burdick, I do not have written testimony, but in observing what I have heard today, I would like to have permission to speak.

Senator McGOVERN. Please give us your name and address.

Mr. KLICKEK. Fred Klickek, from Wolsey and Beadle County.

I am a member of the National Farmers Organization, Farmers Union.

Now, I would like to have it very plain that I am wholeheartedly behind any irrigation project, but what astonishes me is through the testimony that was given today nothing has been said or spoken about price conditions and situations, and no one can tell me that this will solve our problem. We must have prices first of all. Let us put first things first.

Senator McGOVERN. I don't think you have any quarrel with Senator Burdick and me. We are strong advocates of improving farm price income and both of us sponsor in that direction.

Mr. KLICKEK. First of all, let me clear myself.

I have been a strong advocate and close follower of a very great man through the passing years. To me one of the greatest that I can think of, that is, Charles H. Wilson, that as you well know was very instrumental in passing the 90-percent parity through the more years. Now, this man, in my opinion, in his speaking, in his pronouncements—also, he was Director of Economy in Washington, D.C.

This man today is unheard of; nobody listens to this man and, in my thinking, he still insists that we need parity. How can we be ex-

pected to operate for less than parity, when other segments in the economy receive parity. Why shouldn't we, also?

Agriculture is a very basic part of any economy of any nation and this is being denied agriculture today. We speak today of 72-percent parity and Washington is rumbling 77 percent under the same token, but in my opinion actual parity today is probably 25 to 27 percent. Am I correct, Mr. Senator?

Senator McGOVERN. I couldn't answer that. I doubt if it is that low, but it is not high enough.

Mr. KLICKER. This is what I would call actual parity, paying from 42 to 44.

Senator McGOVERN. My knowledge is that average farm income is about two-thirds of the national average and that's not enough. I would not put it as low as your figure, but it is certainly not high enough.

Mr. KLICKER. I am basing it on what we received under the 90 percent parity. In 1963 when wheat was \$2.97 a bushel and corn was \$1.79 by the Federal Government—what is the support on corn and wheat today?

This is what I base parity on, and if the commodities and products that farmers buy today are from 5 to 7 times higher than they were then, then how can we consider parity as such we have today?

This is the quarrel I have. Now, under this Irrigation Act, this will not solve our problem. Our expenses will be enough greater that we are still producing for less than cost. This is what I am getting at. This does not solve our problem. It will solve our problem to a certain extent. Basically, it will help industry to come in to it, a larger population of people to live in these communities, yes, but what we have, we have four masses still with us. This is correct; or is this wrong?

Senator McGOVERN. I don't think anybody agrees that irrigation is a cure-all for all of our problems.

I think it is an important step, but we are not making any attempt to deal with the whole agricultural problem.

Mr. KLICKER. I agree with you 100 percent, but in Washington, D.C., we have one thing that is very wrong. We have free world foods trade.

Our farmers must produce at a world competitive price, and our industries have the highest protection this world has ever known. It is very imperative this cannot continue. Because this is an unbalanced sick economy, the only way we can become strong and firm is through a balanced economy. That cannot continue to carry on.

This is all I have to say, and I thank you very much.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you for your statement. We appreciate that.

Let me just make it clear here again, I am sure that neither Senator Burdick nor Senator Moss, if he were here, would want to leave the impression that we conducted these hearings in a notion that it was going to end all our problems in South Dakota. We have a lot of things we have to deal with and today we are relating our efforts to one aspect of the problem and that's more efficient and proper use of our water resources.

At this time I have a resolution from the Common Council of the City of Miller, which I shall make a part of this record, if there is no objection.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL, CITY OF MILLER, S. DAK.

Whereas, the Common Council of the City of Miller, Hand County, South Dakota, has been advised of a United States Senate Sub-Committee meeting to be held in the City of Redfield, South Dakota, on the 22nd day of May, 1967, and that the said committee meeting is for the purpose of obtaining testimony relative to the early adoption of the Oahe Irrigation Project, and;

Whereas, the Common Council believes that the adoption of the said Irrigation Project is vital to the economic development of the City of Miller, Hand County, and surrounding counties and cities to the extent that it will tend to stabilize the economy of this immediate area in particular and the State of South Dakota in general, and;

Whereas, it is believed that rural South Dakota has gradually sustained an economic reversal to the extent that immediate measures must be taken to improve the stabilizing of the economy and that the earliest possible adoption of the Oahe Irrigation Project is absolutely essential in accomplishing this purpose, and;

Whereas, it is also believed that the City of Miller may, at some future time, acquire water from the Project for public and commercial consumption and therefore be it RESOLVED as follows, to-wit:

That the Common Council in and for the City of Miller, for the reasons hereinabove stated does endorse the said Oahe Irrigation Project and does further encourage and recommend the earliest possible adoption of the said Oahe Irrigation Project.

Dated this 15th day of May, 1967.

Senator McGOVERN. Many people have turned in letters and statements concerning this project. Those, along with the letters written to the committee, will all be included in the hearing record at this point.

(The data referred to follow:)

STATEMENT OF VERNON S. COOPER, PRESIDENT, UPPER MISSOURI WATER USERS ASSOCIATION, CARRINGTON, NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. Chairman, my name is Vernon S. Cooper, Carrington, North Dakota. I am president of the Upper Missouri Water Users Association, an organization composed of irrigation districts, ditch companies, other water users organizations, representatives of various agencies, and individuals interested in water resources development of the four states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. Our association has been in existence for twenty years and has, during this time been concerned with water resources development in the Upper Missouri River Basin, as well as the problems associated with the use of water for irrigation and other purposes in our region. The Upper Missouri Water Users Association is interested in, and concerned with, the development of sound water resources projects in our four-state region and each year reviews water resources project proposed for our region and gives its endorsement to those projects which it considers to be good and sound water resources projects. It has, by Resolution adopted at its 19th Annual Conference held in Billings, Montana, December 14th and 15th, 1966, given such an endorsement to the Oahe Unit, South Dakota, of the Missouri River Basin project and supports the early authorization of this project.

The Upper Missouri River region has great potential, a potential that is dependent, to a great extent, to the development and use of its resources—particularly its water resources. By utilizing a portion of these water resources of the region now controlled by dams which are a part of the Missouri River Basin Project for irrigation and other purposes, our region can and will make a substantially greater contribution to the nation's strength and prosperity than is now possible. The Oahe Unit in South Dakota will provide an outstanding opportunity to the Upper Missouri Basin region to make this contribution.

The Upper Missouri Water Users Association respectfully requests and urges your favorable consideration of S. 6 to authorize construction of the Oahe Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project in South Dakota.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ROY A. HOLAND, CHAIRMAN, GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, LAMOURE, N. DAK.

Mr. Chairman, my name is Roy A. Holand, LaMoure, North Dakota. I am the Chairman of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, a twenty-five county legal entity established in the State of North Dakota which is concerned with the development and operation of the Garrison Diversion Unit of the Missouri River Basin project.

The support of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District for the early authorization of the Oahe Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project in South Dakota is set forth in a resolution which was adopted by our Board of Directors on April 5th, 1967, a copy of which is attached to this statement.

Although our principal concern and interest is with the Garrison Diversion Unit in North Dakota, our organization is keenly interested in and strongly supports the development and utilization of the resources in our region to provide for its growth and economic stability. The development of 190,000 acres of irrigation in South Dakota as is planned under the Oahe Unit, along with the other purposes which the project will serve, will have a decided salutary effect on the economy of South Dakota. Along with the development of the 250,000 acre Garrison Diversion unit in North Dakota, which has already been authorized by Congress and is under construction, it will stimulate the economic growth and development of the Northern Great Plains region of our Nation. Here, where now the economy is based almost entirely on a dry-land agriculture, subject to the vagaries of an unpredictable rainfall each year, we can expect irrigation development, and the other purposes these projects will serve, to provide growth and stability and better enable the Region to make its full contribution to the strength and prosperity of our Nation.

The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District respectfully urges and requests your favorable consideration of legislation that would authorize the Oahe Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project in South Dakota.

Thank you.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Whereas the Oahe Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project has been investigated by the Bureau of Reclamation and has been determined to be an engineeringly sound and economically feasible multiple purpose water resources project which will bring many benefits to the project area, the State of South Dakota, and Upper Midwest and the Nation, and

Whereas the development of irrigation through the Oahe Unit will partially offset the loss South Dakota has experienced because of the inundation of about one-half a million acres of land for Missouri River main-stem reservoirs; and

Whereas bills, namely S. 6 and HR 27 and HR 1163, have been introduced in the 90th Congress which, if approved, would authorize the construction of the first stage of the Oahe Unit to provide water for a number of purposes including the development of 190,000 acres of irrigation; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Board of Directors of the Garrison Diversion Unit at a meeting duly assembled at Harvey, North Dakota, this 5th day of April, 1967, That this Board strongly supports the State of South Dakota and the Oahe Conservancy Sub-district in their efforts to bring about the development of the Oahe Unit and respectfully urges Congress to approve the authorization of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, Missouri River Basin Project, as set forth in the bills listed herein; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senators Milton R. Young, Quentin N. Burdick, Karl C. Mundt, George McGovern; Representatives Mark Andrews, Thomas Kleppe, E. Y. Berry, and Ben Reifel; Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall; Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Kenneth Holm; Commissioner of Reclamation, Floyd E. Dominy and Fred Holscher, Chairman, Oahe Conservancy Sub-district.

STATEMENT OF THE REE HEIGHTS TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB

In support of Legislation to authorize Oahe Project, we the members of the Ree Heights Town and Country Club strongly urge the passage of Senate Bill 6. We believe that the Oahe project is essential and that it should be approved as fast as possible.

The area in which we live will benefit also from the construction of this project. The primary feeder canal crosses the northern part of our county. This water supply will help fill some of our small dams and provide some water for irrigation, for the farmers and ranchers along the canal.

While we believe the Oahe unit is essential, we have some misgivings as to the amount of land being considered for wild life in our area, some 12,000 acres of very good farm and ranch land. We do not believe this is essential part of the project, and this part should be reconsidered.

Members of the subcommittee, we urge you most strongly to press for the authorization and construction of this most critically needed project.

STATEMENT OF FLOYD L. STOLTENBERG, STRATFORD, S. DAK.

Honorable members of the Senate subcommittee my name is Floyd L. Stoltenberg. I live about thirty-five miles northeast of Redfield, in Irrigation District #4.

I am interested in irrigation because of numerous things, mainly because it would provide an ag. related job to the members of my family. Consequently, there would be a production of new monies for the whole area concerned, which would help the economy of the State.

STATEMENT OF KENNETH A. LILLEMOR, MELLETTTE, S. DAK.

Honorable members of the Senate subcommittee, my name is Kenneth A. Lillemor. I farm in Tetonka township near Mellettte, South Dakota, in Irrigation District #4.

I believe that irrigation will be a great asset to South Dakota. The economy of our state is built on agriculture and anything which will expand and stabilize agriculture will expand our entire economy.

I lived through the dust storms of the 1930's and I remember my father and his neighbors putting up Russian thistles for hay. All other sources of feed had dried out. Thistles were about the only thing that would grow.

I remember 1959 and several other years when a little water at the right time could have made a world of difference in our economy. I am sure that we all realize what could happen if we got three or four years in succession such as 1959. There is hardly a year goes by that we don't have a dry period and some water at the right time could make a lot of difference. Many times I've seen crops planted on alfalfa ground and look beautiful until it ran out of water, and then nothing. I can think of several incidences in which there was a potential bumper corn crop on alfalfa ground but it didn't pay to harvest because of the lack of water.

There are many advantages which would be beneficial to our agricultural economy but I believe one which would be a great asset is the increase in farm population. This would bring about a greater tax base and much improved rural community facilities; our schools and churches would benefit greatly and we could offer our children broader educational opportunities at less cost to the individual taxpayer.

In conclusion, I feel that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

STATEMENT OF HUBERT PETERSON, NORTHVILLE, S. DAK.

Honorable members of the Senate subcommittee, my name is Hubert Peterson. I would like to see irrigation come to this area for the many opportunities and challenges that irrigation would bring. Having been born, raised and lived on the same northern Spink County farm for fifty years, I can well remember the dirty thirties. The hardships and uncertainties that dry weather can bring. I have seen farms disappear, the farmer leave the state, small towns fade away, merchants closing their stores and moving elsewhere, many outside the state.

Schools consolidate for need of children and finances; Churches struggle and die in need of preachers, parishioners and money; a son graduates from high school and college and then leaves South Dakota because opportunity was greater elsewhere. All this happens before my eyes, while each day in newspapers and

magazines I read about the problems in our cities with crowded schools, churches with two or three Sunday morning services.

A need for space to expand, for people to live and some unemployment—to me the Oahe Project, to a degree at least, is the partial answer to these problems. There is certainly opportunities for industry with power and water and plenty of space.

To me, a farmer, it means not the challenge of planting and then looking to the skies for moisture, that I might get my speed back and enough to survive, but a challenge to use the best of God's given resources, water and good land, to work for bigger yields, to feed an ever increasing hungry world.

STATEMENT OF HARRY H. MARTENS, WESSINGTON, S. DAK., CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The South Dakota State Soil and Water Conservation Committee is established by law as a department of State Government for the purpose of carrying out the State Soil and Water Conservation Districts Law to the seventy (70) locally organized Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

These seventy (70) districts are governmental sub-divisions of State Government administered by 350 locally elected supervisors and as of March 1, 1967, there were 40,248 farmers and ranchers co-operating with Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The State Soil and Water Conservation Committee submit the following resolution:

"Whereas, the most of South Dakota lies in a rainfall area that does not allow the maximum use of soil and climate for crop production;

"Whereas, livestock feed supplies are always in short supply in some parts of South Dakota each year;

"Whereas, development of the Oahe Irrigation Project will stabilize the production of feed and the livestock industry, and thereby enhance the total economy of South Dakota;

"Whereas, it is generally found that irrigation brings progressive business, fine schools, good medical services, churches and many other commercial and cultural enterprises;

"Therefore, be it resolved, the South Dakota State Soil and Water Conservation Committee does hereby request the Congress of the United States to pass Senate Bill No. 6, authorizing the development of the Oahe Irrigation Project."

STATEMENT OF HARRY H. MARTENS, WESSINGTON, S. DAK., CHAIRMAN OF THE BEADLE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Beadle County Soil and Water Conservation District is a sub-division of State Government for the purpose of carrying out soil and water conservation programs.

The Beadle County District consists of 780,000 acres which is located in the Oahe Conservancy. Sub-District Agriculture in Beadle County is predominately crop and livestock with approximately 9600 acres under irrigation.

The Beadle County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors submit the following resolution:

"Whereas, the most of South Dakota lies in a rainfall area that does not allow the maximum use of soil and climate for crop production;

"Whereas, livestock feed supplies are always in short supply in some parts of South Dakota each year;

"Whereas, development of Oahe Irrigation Project will stabilize the production of feed and the livestock industry and thereby enhance the total economy of South Dakota;

"Whereas, it is generally found that irrigation brings progressive business, fine schools, good medical services, churches and many other commercial and cultural enterprises;

"Therefore, be it resolved, the Beadle County Soil and Water Conservation District does hereby request the Congress of the United States to pass Senate Bill No. 6, authorizing the development of the Oahe Irrigation Project."

STATEMENT OF DAVID KELLER, ASHTON, S. DAK.

Honorable members of the Senate subcommittee: my name is David Keller and I own and operate a livestock and grain farm in Spink County.

I am one-hundred percent behind the James Valley irrigation project. Prior to its formation I had tried to locate underground water but with no success.

I have been of the opinion that if we just had the water the James Valley would not have to take a back seat to any project or area in the country.

While visiting in the Columbia River Basin Project this winter, I was told that our summer temperature and season between frost dates compared very favorably with theirs and also that many of the seed and processing companies are watching the development of the local project and are ready to move in as soon as the time is right.

In my own opinion our land topography, soil class and adaptability, climate and humidity would make this project one worthy of the investment of water.

STATEMENT OF E. H. FIERKE, AGRICULTURAL AGENT, CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE, ST. PAUL & PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.

I am representing the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company. It is hoped that the expressed views of the company will be given careful consideration by members of this subcommittee.

The railroad has a tremendous stake in the agriculture of this state. Over the years, the railroad has supported Bureau of Reclamation projects in which studies have demonstrated practicability and economic feasibility. The Oahe project is no exception. A potential development of this magnitude will have a far-reaching effect on the total economy of South Dakota and subsequently on the economy of the railroad.

The Oahe Irrigation Project is based on multi-purpose development of which irrigation is of paramount importance. Historically, South Dakota's agriculture economy has experienced something less than accomplishment due to the re-occurring droughts. The most serious of these drought periods in the 1930's brought about widespread farm foreclosures and depleted the resources of the State's general economy. A reduction in the normal traffic from farm products during that period made necessary economies of drastic character to preserve the solvency of railroad property in South Dakota.

Farmers also suffered due to loss of income and property during that period. In fact, during most years, the states of the Northern Plains suffered from inadequate moisture supplies. For more than three decades the rural population of South Dakota has decreased and the population growth of the state has been much less than the national average. The instability of the economy and the lack of opportunity makes it very difficult for this state to retain its greatest asset—its young people.

Modern economic society is based upon the exchange of goods and services. A community which itself produces little can have little to trade, except temporarily from borrowing money or establishing relief funds which may be used in lieu of produce. But a stabilized agriculture within the community insures a plentiful supply of goods to be marketed and an active consumer demand for commodities produced elsewhere.

In regions where agriculture production is limited by low and uncertain rainfall, the problem of maintaining economic stability can be solved by irrigation. Irrigation makes intensive agriculture possible; assures consistency of good yields which have a steadying effect on prices and enables the farmer to make long-range plans for cropping and livestock. Irrigation, as proposed in the Oahe Irrigation Project, will not lend itself to the production of surplus crops, but rather permit the production of specialized crops that are in demand. Irrigation will enable project farmer to produce sufficient livestock feed not only for their own use, but for adjacent ranching areas during times of distress. Irrigation development will stimulate the population growth in the project area. It will increase the number of farm families in the state and attract thousands of other families due to the opportunities in industry which will develop as a result of irrigation. It is projected that as each additional family is brought into the project that one additional job is created. The increase in population both to the rural and urban areas will reverse the trend of a declining or static population that has been experienced in the state for a number of years.

The Milwaukee Railroad favors authorization of the Oahe Irrigation Project which would move the project into the initial planning and construction stage. The railroad supported the program for building the Oahe Dam notwithstanding the elimination of thousands of acres of productive valley lands tributary to the railroad inundated by the waters of the reservoir. Diversion of the water from the reservoir of the Missouri River for irrigation has been a basic and integral part of the entire Missouri Basin project from the time it was first proposed. In 1966 landowners within the project boundaries overwhelmingly approved the entering into contractual obligations for the repayment of the project assigned to them. We believe this demonstrates their desire for the project in many ways.

We trust this committee will consider favorably legislation which will result in the multi-purpose developments of the Oahe Irrigation Project for the people of north central South Dakota. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JOHN ETBAUER, PRESIDENT, REE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., MILLER, S. DAK.

My name is John Etbauer. I am a cattle raiser near Ree Heights, South Dakota, and I am here today as President of Ree Electric Cooperative, Inc. Our cooperative urges the authorization of this project because we believe in the 1,435 rural families who are our members in Hyde and Hand Counties. The great bulk of these people are livestock growers like myself. As such, they are vitally interested in the source of supply of feed grains and hay for feeding livestock.

The addition of 190,000 irrigable acres, which is foreseen in the first state legislation, would have a tremendous impact on stabilization of the feed supply for eastern South Dakota. As a livestock grower, I need feeders to buy the 110 to 120 head of yearling steers which I sell in an average year. Now, they go to Iowa where feed corn is more plentiful. These feeders need an adequate, stable and dependable source of feed supply. Occasionally we buy corn to feed the calves on our place and to feed out a few heifers. So far, we have been able to get this corn in the state. The day could come, however, when drought could make it impossible to get enough corn locally and we would have to import massive amounts.

Ree Electric Cooperative supports the Oahe Project also because we believe it is good for the economy of the state. The added income, rural and urban, which Oahe would provide has been expressed ably by others here today. We believe Oahe would be good for the nation because it would increase the production of food that will be so badly needed by a mushrooming population.

Ree Electric believes that the Oahe Project is essential and that it should be approved as fast as possible.

The two counties we serve will benefit also from the construction of this project—the primary feeder canal crosses the northern parts of our counties. Water supply will help fill some of the smaller potholes which sometimes dry in the summer. And possibly in the second stage, when the Missouri Slope irrigation area is organized and approved our project area will receive direct irrigation benefits.

Members of the Subcommittee, we urge you most strongly to press for the authorization and construction of this most critically needed project.

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to represent Ree Electric Cooperative today.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT BROER, CHAIRMAN, BEADLE COUNTY WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

I am Robert Broer, Chairman of the Beadle County Water Resources Development Committee, organized in March 1960.

The purpose of this organization is to determine the beneficial use and conservation of all water available and to fully utilize this resource for the betterment of our economy and well being. Much has been accomplished by this group representing all sections of Beadle County in informing the people on the issues involved. Organization of the Sub-District and the contract authority vote are significant for the successful outcome of these issues. Full support of the Oahe Irrigation Project has been demonstrated through the support given by the voters of this area.

We realize that the initial stage of this project will not include the Beadle Canal and that most of the benefits to our area will be secondary and indirect.

However, we feel that the fringe benefits associated with the increased land use in the irrigated area and the expected increase in population are extremely important and beneficial to our economy.

We are especially concerned that our children, the future farmers, business and professional people be given an opportunity to make a successful life for themselves. The development of this project will help in this achievement.

Therefore we urge the earliest possible congressional approval and start on construction of the Oahe Project.

STATEMENT OF RICHARD RICCI, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS UNION

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, my name is Richard Ricci and I am director of Public Relations for the South Dakota Farmers Union, the largest farm organization in the state with headquarters at Huron, South Dakota. I am appearing here today as a representative of our organization in lieu of our State President, Ben Radcliffe, who will appear at the full committee hearing in Washington.

The South Dakota Farmers Union is in full support of efforts to bring the Oahe Irrigation Project to completion. This is a matter of record in our 1966-67 program of policy and action, adopted by delegates to our 51st convention last October. The wording in the adopted program is as follows: "Because the Oahe Irrigation Project has been found feasible and would bring great benefit to the economy of South Dakota, we urge immediate action by the Administration and Congress for the authorization and appropriation of funds to initiate this project."

The Bureau of Reclamation report, which was completed after more than 15 years of investigation and study, shows that the Oahe unit is both a sound investment for the federal government and an economic necessity for the future water resource development of South Dakota.

Eventual completion of this Oahe project, together with the installation of irrigation systems on many acres of our South Dakota farmland, carries a tremendous potential for improvement in the farm sector of the economy. Our organization is very hopeful that the Oahe unit, when completed, will provide an answer to our state's diminishing farm population and steadily declining farm prosperity.

In addition to presently being handicapped by a restricted number of products which South Dakota farmers can raise under dryland situations, they are frequently subjected to severe and sometimes continued droughts that have devastating effects, both on the production of cash crops and livestock.

The devastating effects of drought can be virtually eliminated for the farmer who uses irrigation projects since a fair supply of feed, particularly roughage, is likely to be available in the irrigated areas.

Farmers Union, for many years now, has fought diligently to attempt to halt the exodus of farmers from the land. This also becomes the immediate problem of our towns and small businessmen because according to the latest farm census, South Dakota lost 6,000 farms during the 1959-1964 period for an average of 1,200 per year. In a like period 1958-1963, as documented by the 1963 Census of Business by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, South Dakota suffered a net loss of 1,101 retail business establishments. This represents a ratio of one business place closing its doors for every six farms that disappeared.

According to the Bureau of Reclamation Supplemental Report on this first stage of the Oahe unit, completion of this phase would add 500 more farms and 1,700 more farm people. In addition, another 12,300 people would find new opportunity in farm service businesses, new basic agricultural industries, and other services and activities. With the cities already plagued with the ills of overcrowded conditions, it seems only logical to develop the rural areas to open the gates to new industries, higher income and more employment opportunities to curb the present trend of migrating into the metropolitan areas. According to the Bureau report, the Oahe unit will result in a total population boost for South Dakota of 14,000 persons.

The Bureau report also estimates that development of this first stage alone will bring in nearly \$31.5 million dollars in new wages, profits and investment earnings. It estimates gross farm income will increase by \$30 million.

And certainly, to whatever extent irrigation strengthens the farm economy of South Dakota, the non-farm economy will benefit from increased farm spend-

ing. This investigative report by the Bureau indicates that business activity could increase by more than \$71 million dollars, and this increased income is going to mean a bigger tax take for state and federal governments—a boost in tax revenue of some \$6 million.

When the construction of this needed project gets underway there also will be some increase in job opportunities for construction workers, plus the workers that will no doubt be hired to aid in leveling land, helping prepare feeder canals and drainage ditches on individual farms. All of this activity will produce new jobs for non-farm people in South Dakota.

It is our hope, given proper economic planning by our own South Dakota leaders, that these job opportunities can continue to grow after construction is completed. If farmers in the potential irrigation area should shift to vegetable crops, sugarbeets or products of that nature, the more perishable crops will require some processing in the communities where they are grown.

Thus the shift in the agricultural economy brought about by irrigation could produce a variety of new jobs in the field of processing, storing and transportation of new commodities.

Farmers Union, as well as other citizens, is also interested in the potential this project offers for developing our hunting and fishing in South Dakota, thus injecting new lifeblood into our tourist industry which brings about an increased local demand for farm produce as well as increasing the number of service jobs connected with tourism.

In summing up, just let me say that the potential gain for the South Dakota farmer would be on two fronts. First, the direct dollar boost to the agricultural producer and the secondary advantage to farmers which would accrue from increased industry and job prospects in our state, all of which will tend to upgrade our economy and enhance farm income.

In the view of South Dakota Farmers Union members, the potential for economic and social benefits inherent in the Oahe unit far outweigh the estimated costs. We therefore sincerely urge your favorable consideration of Senate Bill #6 and that the Senators on this committee take whatever steps necessary and practical toward expediting the authorization and eventual completion of this project.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express these views.

STATEMENT OF ALBERT C. HAUFFE, PRESIDENT, SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman, my name is Albert C. Hauffe, I am a farmer from Leola, S.D. I am here as president of the South Dakota Rural Electric Association, a service organization serving our state's 33 rural electric distribution cooperatives and three power supply cooperatives.

The matter which concerns us here today, Senate Bill 6, a measure which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain the first stage of the Oahe Unit, is another in a series of steps taken by South Dakotans in seeking to realize the full development of our state's water resources.

The importance of such a development can not, in my opinion, be over emphasized. The full development of all our natural and human resources is a highly desirable goal for all South Dakotans.

For far too long South Dakota has been exporting at an alarming rate her greatest resource . . . people. A look at farm census figures for the years 1954, 1959 and 1964 dramatically underlines this fact. In my home county, McPherson County, the number of farms dropped from 1,104 in 1954 to 779 in 1964 and the rate of attrition continues to accelerate. In Spink County, where we are meeting today, farm numbers fell from 1,557 in 1954 to 1,127 in 1964. In adjacent Brown County there were 1,846 farms in 1954. In 1964 there were 1,447. The picture is equally dark in virtually all areas of our state.

We are deeply disturbed by these statistics. New opportunities in rural areas are the key to meeting this concern. And in the process they can prevent the multiplication of problems that beset our teeming urban centers which are occupying so much of the Nation's attention today.

Authorization of the first stage of the Oahe Unit could, in large measure, stem this exodus from South Dakota's farms to the urban centers, result in a more stabilized agriculture and the establishment of many agri-businesses, all of which

would result in a fuller and more abundant life for both rural and urban residents.

In seeking authorization of the Oahe Unit, South Dakotans are only in quest of those benefits set forth in the Flood Control Acts of 1944 and 1946. These Acts, as you well know, foretold a huge basinwide project which was to include flood control, power generation, irrigation, navigation and allied benefits.

In the interests of such a multi-purpose project South Dakotans sacrificed in excess of one-half million acres of our most fertile land to inundation under the four mainstem reservoirs located within the state's boundaries.

As Sen. McGovern pointed out in his introduction of Senate Bill 6 in the United States Senate, the loss of those lands represents about \$20 million a year to the people of South Dakota.

How has the overall project fared to date? Flood control along the once unharnessed Missouri is an accomplished fact. Facilities for the generation of power are producing at capacity. Navigation of the lower Missouri from Sioux City, Ia., to St. Louis, Mo., is assured.

On the debit side of the ledger, the irrigation potential is still largely untapped. Such development awaits action by the Congress of the United States.

Permanent, stable, self-supporting communities on an irrigated hinterland offer a steady, ever-expanding market for American industrial goods.

The availability of water for irrigation turns farms away from one-crop dryland farming to a more stable, intensive cultivation of special crops, such as vegetables, seeds, alfalfa and sugar beets.

Strong support for authorization of the Oahe Unit by South Dakotans has been evidenced on at least four previous occasions:

1. The formation of the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict under provisions of South Dakota law in the general election of 1960.
2. In January, 1965, when 82.7 percent of the Spink County landowners and 82.2 percent of the Brown County landowners approved formation of irrigation districts.
3. In the general election of 1966 when the electorate of the subdistrict granted contractual authority to the board of directors by over a 75 percent majority, and
4. Approval of a concurrent resolution by the South Dakota House of Representatives last January urging Congressional authorization.

The organization which I represent, the South Dakota Rural Electric Association, repeatedly has expressed support of the project authorization. At our 25th annual meeting in January it was unanimously resolved that the Association go on record as favoring early authorization of the Oahe Unit by the Congress of the United States. (Copy of resolution attached)

Similar expressions of support have emanated from the individual cooperatives through approval of like resolutions by their boards of directors and at annual membership meetings.

South Dakota's No. 1 industry is agriculture. Whenever we have a partial crop failure there is always some degree of disaster. The degree depends upon the severity of the failure, which becomes more acute when combined with a price decline.

There are a number of Agricultural Experiment Station studies conducted by South Dakota State University, in addition to the farmers' own experiences, that prove the stabilizing effect of having irrigated land to go with the dryland in the farm or ranch unit.

The job of supplying South Dakota's rural areas with electric power was a sizable one and one that the rural electric cooperatives undertook when only 3.5 percent of the state's rural population was enjoying the benefits of central station electric service. The degree to which the cooperatives accomplished this tremendous job can be seen at every hand, with the cooperative's now supplying electric energy to over 90 percent of the state's farms and ranches.

But the exodus from the land so evident in recent years and to which I referred earlier, has resulted in over 5,000 idle services, services that were once used but are no longer in service. In other words, loans which had been made to serve over 5,000 families must be absorbed in the payments of the existing 76,000 members of rural electric cooperatives, an obvious added burden to the already hard-pressed agricultural segment of our economy.

Authorization and the eventual completion of the Oahe Unit could well result in a reversal of this trend . . . the hooking up of new consumers, alleviating

the squeeze on the member-owners of the rural electric systems and contributing to a more prosperous and stable economy for the entire state.

SDREA firmly believes that rural families in rural enterprises are a balancing force in the social and political structure that is vital to the stability, preservation and improvement of representative democratic government; of an efficient and economic productive system; of a satisfying world society and that the individually owned and operated farm is essential to the preservation and enrichment of the private enterprise system.

On behalf of the rural electric cooperatives of South Dakota I would like to thank the members of this subcommittee for your valuable time and for your diligent efforts to learn first hand the sentiment of the people of South Dakota concerning Senate Bill 6.

We consider this project second to none as it relates to the growth and development of our state and as it may serve to preserve for South Dakota our most valuable resource . . . our people . . .

Your recommendation for authorization of the Oahe Unit to the full committee and subsequent favorable action by that body will assure the people of South Dakota that the elected representatives of the people of these United States are indeed cognizant of the needs of a diminishing rural population.

OAHU IRRIGATION UNIT, SDREA ANNUAL MEETING 1967, RESOLUTION

Whereas the future economic and social well-being of South Dakota depends upon the development of the State's natural resources, chief among which is water, and

Whereas the construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit will make Missouri River water available for the irrigation of 495,000 acres of land, which in turn will result in increased and stabilized agricultural production on lands presently under cultivation, and

Whereas the increased and stabilized agricultural production from irrigated lands integrated with nearby dryland will result in increased population, employment opportunities and business activity which will be reflected in the economy of the state, region and nation;

Now therefore be it resolved that the South Dakota Rural Electric Association, consisting of 36 member cooperatives, duly assembled at its annual convention in Huron, South Dakota, this 24 day of January, 1967, favors the early authorization of the Oahe Unit by the Congress of the United States.

STATEMENT OF JOE H. NEUMAYR, ATTORNEY, GETTYSBURG, S. DAK.

I represent a group of land owners from Western Sully County, South Dakota. It is a voluntary group of land owners who have associated themselves together to resist the formation of the Missouri Slope Irrigation District in that area.

The first attempt to organize such an irrigation district was commenced with the filing, under date of April 7, 1964, in the offices of the County Auditors of Sully and Potter Counties, of ten (10) "Petition for Organization of the Missouri Slope Irrigation District". These petitions requested the formation of an irrigation district containing approximately 133,988 acres of land in Sully and Potter Counties, but only about 10,000 acres of the total 133,988 acres were located in Potter County. It was claimed such proposed irrigation district encompassed all of the feasible irrigable land in the area, and as such proposed district contained land in both Sully and Potter Counties the joint hearing upon such petitions, and as to whether or not an election should be held for the formation of such district, was set for May 6, 1964 at the courtroom, in the courthouse, in the City of Onida, Sully County, South Dakota. On that date the Boards of County Commissioners of Sully and Potter Counties, in a joint meeting, voted to reject the petitions. No appeal was taken from such joint action of the Boards of County Commissioners of Sully and Potter Counties, and no election was held on the question of the formation of such district. It is believed that this hearing and the records in regard to the same as on file in the Auditor's Office at Onida, South Dakota, conclusively show that the majority of the land owners in the district as proposed were not in favor of forming such an irrigation district.

On July 6, 1965, petitions were again submitted for Organization of the Missouri Slope Irrigation District, a bond, and two letters of incorporation, to

the Board of County Commissioners of Sully County, South Dakota. The district proposed at that date contained approximately 58,000 acres of land situated entirely in Sully County, South Dakota, and retained practically the same system of canals as was proposed in the prior, larger, district that contained approximately 133,988 acres of land. Two other items were also immediately apparent in this proposed district: (a) it had eliminated practically all known objectors with the result that it was excessively gerrymandered and (b) it included practically all non-resident owned land which constituted a goodly percentage of the total acreage for the obvious reason that such land owners could not vote in any election concerning the formation of an irrigation district because of such a restriction in the laws of the State of South Dakota. It is true that the Sully County Commissioners later did go on record that they would drop any land owner from the district that requested it in writing but this did not cure the problem as insufficient notice was given. The proposed district boundaries as finally established contains approximately 69,000 acres of land, part of which was admitted by the Sully County Board of Commissioners without prior certification as to irrigability by the State Engineers Office. The decision of the Sully County Board of Commissioners establishing the proposed district boundaries and that an election be held has been appealed to the Courts. Pending the outcome of such appeal, the election to establish the proposed Missouri Slope Irrigation District is in abeyance.

Many of the landowners whom we represent are now without the proposed district. Why, then, are they still objecting to such a district. Primarily because the present smaller district has the same proposed canals as were proposed in the prior, larger, district that encompassed all of the irrigable land in the area. These canals will have tremendous impact on the people of the area and their present methods of farming. They are, nevertheless, within the confines of the proposed district and the canals will break up their farms and make it exceedingly difficult and costly to move their equipment from place to place. This severance may be somewhat alleviated by condemnation awards, but past experience certainly shows such awards never compensate fully.

These landowners have many objections to the merits of the project and respectfully call the attention of the Committee to the following:

1. That the Bureau of Reclamation is overselling a project and a flood type system of irrigation that is—

(a) Outdated and certainly not adapted for use in South Dakota with its short growing season;

(b) Inefficient and wasteful of both water and the land it will take out of production;

(c) Too expensive;

(d) Going to break up fairly large productive dry land farms being operated on a profitable basis into smaller units of very questionable value to the economy if individually the unit is unprofitable.

2. That the land within the confines of the proposed irrigation is as good as can be found in Sully County, South Dakota and is highly productive. The land is settled and most of it is clear of debt. The 160 acre restriction as to ownership should have no application here—such restriction was an anti-speculation law and should not be a vehicle for land reform of private land holdings.

3. Irrigation farming is a drastic change from dry land farming. These people who are directly involved would like to know more as to the feasibility and cost of such a project before going into it. Once they join in such a program they have no assurance they can get out—they want to have the facts first!!!

4. The western part of this area is only a few miles from the Oahe Reservoir. The most the area requires is supplemental irrigation. Water could be piped underground from the reservoir with provision to supply necessary pressure where sprinkler systems were to be used. Water consumption and maintenance would be less and such system would be of much greater value to the land owner.

5. They seriously question that 160 acres of irrigated land in Sully County, even free and clear of encumbrance, can support a family. Attention is called to Bulletin 450, May 1955, "50 Years Experience on the Belle Fourche Irrigation Project" by South Dakota State College, Brookings, South Dakota.

6. That they realize the need for water in South Dakota and are certainly not against irrigation. All have done what they can to develop available natural resources and wish to continue doing so—but they want a system that will have a reasonable assurance of making a profit and will not break up their farms.

STATEMENT OF WALTER J. THORES, MAYOR, AND THE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF FAULKTON, S. DAK.

The City of Faulkton, Faulk County, South Dakota is a municipal corporation located in the area which will be affected by the early development of the Oahe Unit, and the said City has passed a resolution on its books requesting the earliest possible completion date for the Oahe Irrigation Unit. The City of Faulkton issued this resolution because the officials feel that the City of Faulkton will be in need of the water, for domestic use, which will result from the completion of this project.

It is also the feeling of the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Faulkton that since the area surrounding this municipality is based upon the primary industry of agriculture and because of the inconsistency in the amount of rainfall in this area, the economy of the City of Faulkton and the surrounding community varies greatly with the weather conditions, and it is believed that the irrigation district in the immediate vicinity of the municipality of Faulkton will greatly enhance the stability and the economy of this area. It will relieve the deviation and irregularity as to income the farms in this area will produce, and that a constant source of water provided by the Oahe Unit will provide a constant income and a growing economy for Faulkton and its immediate vicinity.

It is also pointed out that within the next few years, that the growing population of the United States and of the world will make it necessary that the agricultural producing areas, produce as much food as possible in order to relieve the food shortage which now exists and will be an ever increasing problem. It is therefore felt that it is for the welfare of the residents of the City of Faulkton, the County of Faulk and the State of South Dakota and they will be greatly benefited by the completion at the earliest possible date of the Oahe Irrigation Unit;

Therefore it is the request of the City of Faulkton, through its Mayor and duly elected officials that the United States Congress enact legislation that will hasten at the earliest possible date the construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

STATEMENT OF CLAYTON SEIBEL, PRESIDENT OF THE MARSHALL COUNTY FARMERS UNION, KIDDER, S. DAK.

My name is Clayton Seibel. I farm near Kidder, South Dakota. I want to stay on the farm. And I want my children and my neighbor's children to have an opportunity to stay on the farm if they want to. I am here today to present a statement on behalf of the Marshall County Farmers Union in support of the Oahe Project.

Our county is not included in the first stage authorization under consideration by your committee. If, as they say, it will be 10 years after authorization before the first water can be placed on the land in the first unit, it may be many more years before Marshall County gets much direct benefit. Many of the people in my organization will not live to see that day. But that does not diminish their enthusiastic support of this critically needed project.

The surpluses which were an explosive campaign issue and 1960 and 1964 are gone. Some economists fear that our reserves of feed grains are insufficient to weather a sustained drought. Certainly our food stocks are nowhere adequate to the task of feeding a hungry world's people who increase faster than our capability to produce food. Rather than seeking to take land out of production, even this year the Agriculture Department wants to have at least part of it returned to production. Our own Senator McGovern is perhaps the nation's foremost authority on feeding a hungry world. Certainly he has been the conscience of our society in this area.

If we look at the increased food productivity which Oahe will make possible from a global basis, we see it taking an increasing importance. Since the time of creation, our human race has managed to achieve three billion population. Before the end of the century less than 33 years from now, the population will double to more than six billion. In a world in which three million children die each year from diseases induced or complicated by malnutrition, it is a clear responsibility on us as the richest nation in the world to find ways of increasing world food production. From a world-wide viewpoint the approval and construction of the Oahe Project is something we can delay no further.

STATEMENT OF CARVIN GUY, PRESIDENT, MARSHALL COUNTY NATIONAL FARMERS ORGANIZATION

My name is Carvin Guy. I operate a family-size farm near Veblen, South Dakota, and I am president of the NFO in Marshall County.

Our organization is deeply worried about the sick state of family-type agriculture today. We believe collective bargaining at the marketplace can help solve our problems. We also believe that the irrigation and flood control features of the Oahe Project will help solve this problem.

The prices we receive for our production have dropped 8 per cent just since last August. The price we must pay for production items is up 2 and 3 per cent in the same period. We are clearly caught in a cost-price squeeze. Because farm family income has not kept pace with the increased income of other segments of our economy, the farmers are deserting South Dakota at the rate of 1,500 a year. As the big manufacturers and the research agencies come up with more efficient ways of farming, this trend could well increase.

The Marshall County NFO supports the Oahe Project as a partial answer to stopping this regrettable trend. The first stage will make possible 500 new farms. The second stage might mean even more new farms.

The Oahe Project also will mean a greater tax base for the entire region. As property taxes on our farms and homes go up and up, it will be welcome relief to have new wealth in the region, sharing the tax load.

We stand today on the threshold of a new agricultural boom as the population of the world continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Certainly the mere presence of a growing market does not assure the farmer will share in the increased income of the food and fiber market. We in the NFO believe quite strongly that the farm income problem will not be solved until we gain a strong bargaining position in the market place. We do hope that this can come hand-in-hand with the development of our economy through the authorization of the Oahe Project.

We must think seriously about increasing the income of the farmer, and about increasing our production of food and fiber both to feed a hungry world and to provide for our young people farm opportunities which do not exist today.

We urge your committee to take favorable action on this legislation. Thank you.

STATEMENT BY WEBSTER (S. DAK.), CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The main street of Webster and the economic life of its people are dependent fully and entirely on the surrounding agricultural area. This is true of every small town in South Dakota and probably every small town in the Great Plains. This fact makes the Webster Chamber of Commerce acutely aware of the continuing loss of farms in our area.

It has been documented, in every irrigation project now operating that widespread irrigation not only reverses this trend of loss of farms but turns it around to begin actually increasing farms. This has been especially true in the Columbia River Basin Project in the Pacific Northwest.

Webster is the trade center of Day County, South Dakota. We can document the number of farms which have ceased to operate. But equally frightening, and going hand in hand with the loss of farms, is the loss of retail businesses. Day County, from 1958 through 1968, the period covered by the last U.S. Census of Business, lost 21 retail trade establishments. The drop was from 163 to 142, a loss of nearly one-eighth.

The first stage of the Oahe Unit will not encompass Day County land. The second stage will cover only a handful of acres in our county. But we know full well the need for regional thinking and regional planning in this age of modern highways and fast transportation. A community no longer is measured by a day's ride by horseback, but must be measured in much larger terms. Therefore we conclude that the great economic benefits of the Oahe Unit, although they may be a few miles from our front door, will have a great beneficial effect on our businesses and our families.

What we are saying is that if Oahe can be built and authorized, will mean new dollars in the economy of our business communities—helping to raise the standard of living for many and providing new jobs for many others.

In addition to the economic benefits inherent in better yields and more farms, the Oahe Unit can provide additional fish, wildlife and recreation benefits that

the people of Webster will view with interest. We are aware of the increasing business of lakes and recreation because of our proximity to the northeast lake region. Oahe will provide four recreation reservoirs and 18 wildlife habitat improvement areas. The hunters in Webster and all other like communities will benefit.

In short, the business and professional people of Webster are on the side of the farmer. They know the good of the Oahe Project and are pleased to add their voice to those urging rapid authorization and construction.

STATEMENT OF LOREN L. SMITH, PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF
NORTHVILLE, S. DAK.

I, Loren L. Smith, President of the Trustees of the town of Northville, S. Dak., am happy to present a resolution adopted by the board of trustees supporting the Oahe Irrigation District and encouraging its early development and a copy of the resolution is submitted herewith:

"RESOLUTION

"Be it resolved by the board of trustees of the town of Northville, S. Dak., to support the Oahe Irrigation District and encourages its early development."

STATEMENT OF MRS. FRANK WRIGHT, CHAIRMAN, SPINK COUNTY EXTENSION
HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL

Honorable Members of the Senate Subcommittee, I am Mrs. Frank Wright. At the present time I am serving as chairman of the Spink County Extension Homemakers Council.

During the past two or three years our County Agent, Ralph Sorensen, has provided us with information concerning the proposed Oahe Irrigation District: how it was to be formed, what areas would be affected, what effect it could have on the economy of this area. One time he asked us to help get people to vote on it—either yes or no—but vote.

On the basis of the material that had been presented to us we asked the individual clubs to send in an indication of whether they were in favor of, or opposed to, the development of the Irrigation District. It is these statements that I am presenting for your consideration.

[Enclosures]

The Friendly Hour Extension Homemakers Club voted unanimously in favor of the development of the Irrigation District. Our meeting was held a few days after one of the dirt storms we had this spring. Most of us remember the "dirty '30's" too well. So we decided that anything that would help prevent a recurrence of that situation would be good for the state and we are for it. Advantages that they expect to come out of it are:

More chances for young people to find work, so we won't be losing them to other parts of the country.

Not everyone will get "dried out", if we do have a dry year.

Make Spink County a nicer place to live.

More industries will boost the economy.

Mrs. FRANK WRIGHT,
Secretary, Friendly Hour Extension Homemakers Club.

Be it resolved, the members of the Chicory Chic Extension Club strongly support the Oahe Irrigation Development project and respectfully suggest a most favorable report on the field hearings held in Redfield, South Dakota, May 8, 1967 by the power and water resources sub-committee of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs committee.

We believe the development of this project to be in the best interests of this area, state and Nation.

BETHEL SCHMIDT,
Chairman, Chicory Chic Extension Homemakers Club.

In our recent Extension Club meeting, we voted on the coming irrigation. Of the fifteen members present, all felt that South Dakota should not pass up such a wonderful development. All were very much in favor.

ARLENE SMITH,

Secretary, Northville Extension Club.

We, members of the G.G.G. extension club, Aliene Lemmer, Margaret Roberson, Pauline Gisi, Lela Robinson, Dagmar Einspahr, Elaine Roth, Marlys Esser, Karen Boyd, Janice Rainford, Monna Esser, hereby give our support to the Oahe Conservancy Sub District.

Frankfort Happy Hour Club voted unanimously (15 members) in favor of irrigation.

Friendly Neighbors Club voted unanimous (7 members) approval of the Oahe Irrigation Project.

Over half of the members (23 members in all) of the Garfield Club voted in favor of irrigation.

Loyal Workers Club voted unanimously (27 members) in favor of the Oahe Irrigation Project.

Klatter Klub voted two-thirds (15 members) in favor of the Oahe Project.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
April 6, 1967.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: It is a pleasure for me to enclose a copy of a resolution adopted by the North Dakota State Water Commission urging favorable action on the legislation pending before your Committee to authorize the initial unit of the Oahe Irrigation Project.

I would like to associate myself with the views expressed in this resolution, and I hope that this legislation will be enacted during the current session of Congress. Too, I request that this resolution be made a part of any hearings held on this legislation.

With warmest personal regards,
Sincerely,

MILTON R. YOUNG.

[Enclosure]

RESOLUTION 67-3-235—NORTH DAKOTA STATE WATER COMMISSION

Whereas, construction by the Federal Government of the four dams on Missouri River in South Dakota—Gavins Point, Fort Randall, Big Bend, and Oahe—has resulted in the loss to the State of over half a million acres of valuable agricultural land required for the projects, which loss can be partially mitigated through the irrigation development authorized by the Congress as a part of the Missouri River Basin Project in the Flood Control Act of 1944; and

Whereas, proposed legislation pending in Congress—H.R. 27 and 1163, and S. 6—would authorize the Secretary of the Interior "to construct, operate, and maintain . . . the first stage of the Oahe unit, James division, Missouri River Basin project, South Dakota, for the principal purposes of furnishing a surface irrigation water supply for approximately 190,000 acres of land, furnishing water for municipal and industrial uses, controlling floods, enhancing the generation of power, conserving and developing fish and wildlife resources, and enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities, and other purposes"; and

Whereas, the unit report and legislative measures have been developed through exhaustive studies and investigations by the Bureau of Reclamation, South Dakota's congressional delegation, and affected local interests and all have determined the unit to be engineeringly sound and economically feasible, and a development that will bring many benefits to South Dakota, the region, and the Nation through the balanced and stabilized economy in the area and other benefits which it will provide; and

Whereas, North Dakota as the upstream border state has a common interest with its sister state in the regional economy of the two-state area;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the North Dakota State Water Commission, meeting in regular session in its office in the State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, March 23, 1967, that it strongly favors and supports the proposed Oahe unit, initial stage, development and does hereby most respectfully urge the Congress to consider and take favorable action upon the aforesaid legislative bills at the earliest practicable date; and

Be it further resolved that the Secretary be and he is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Honorable Nils A. Boe, Governor of South Dakota; U.S. Senators Karl E. Mundt, George McGovern, Milton R. Young, and Quentin N. Burdick, and U.S. Representatives E. Y. Berry, Ben Reifel, Mark Andrews, and Thomas S. Kleppe; Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary, Honorable Kenneth Holum, Assistant Secretary for Water and Power, and Honorable Floyd E. Dominy, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

For the North Dakota State Water Commission:

Gov. WILLIAM L. GUY,
Chairman.

Attest:

MILO W. HOISVEEN,
Chief Engineer-Secretary, State Engineer.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
April 17, 1967.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Enclosed is a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District of North Dakota supporting the prompt approval of Senate Bill 6 which would authorize the construction of the first step of the Oahe Irrigation Unit in South Dakota.

I would like to associate myself with the views expressed in this resolution. I sincerely hope that it will be possible for this legislation to be acted upon during the current session of Congress.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

MILTON R. YOUNG.

[Enclosure]

RESOLUTION

(Resolution urging Congress to authorize the Oahe unit, Missouri River Basin project, adopted by board of directors, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, April 5, 1967)

Whereas the Oahe Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project has been investigated by the Bureau of Reclamation and has been determined to be an engineeringly sound and economically feasible multiple purpose water resources project which will bring many benefits to the project area, the State of South Dakota, the Upper Midwest and the Nation, and

Whereas the development of irrigation through the Oahe Unit will partially offset the loss South Dakota has experienced because of the inundation of about one-half a million acres of land for Missouri River main-stem reservoirs; and

Whereas bills, namely S. 6 and H.R. 27 and H.R. 1163, have been introduced in the 90th Congress which, if approved, would authorize the construction of the first stage of the Oahe Unit to provide water for a number of purposes including the development of 190,000 acres of irrigation,

Now therefore be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Garrison Diversion Unit at a meeting duly assembled at Harvey, North Dakota, this 5th day of April, 1967, that this Board strongly supports the State of South Dakota and the Oahe Conservancy Sub-district in their efforts to bring about the development of the Oahe Unit and respectfully urges Congress to approve the authorization of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, Missouri River Basin Project, as set forth in the bills listed herein, and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senators Milton R. Young, Quentin N. Burdick, Karl C. Mundt, George McGovern; Representatives Mark Andrews, Thomas Kleppe, E. Y. Berry, and Ben Reifel;

Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Kenneth Holm; Commissioner of Reclamation Floyd E. Dominy and Fred Holscher, Chairman, Oahe Conservancy Sub-district.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District this 5th day of April, 1967.

VERNON S. COOPER
Secretary-Manager.

ONIDA, S. DAK.
April 13, 1967.

Senator CLINTON P. ANDERSON of New Mexico,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I have seen your name used different times in connection with the Oahe irrigation District, so thought I should give you a little of the other side, rather than the side of the promoters, speculators, and bureaucrats.

When they first started holding propaganda meetings a few years ago on the proposed project, they told us it was entirely up to the land owners—if the majority was in favor, they would try to get it, if the majority was opposed it would be dropped, as it would take local approval.

The landowners twice has indicated they don't want irrigation as it is trying to be pushed in by the bureau. When they see, the second time wasn't going to work, they sent in a lawyer to try to bulldoze it in, so at this time the Missouri Slope of the Oahe project is in the courts.

The original project was, I believe, all in 4 or 5 townships, now in order to maintain their claimed acres, the Missouri Slope is scattered over 16 townships.

As I understand it the 19,000 A. of Brown and Spink Counties that is in Congress at this time, that their first try, it only carried by something like 22%, so they done kind of like Hitler, they eliminated the opposition by leaving out the ones that was opposed. And on the second try they claimed, I believe, something like 86%. So it would rather indicate that on the original proposed project they only had 10 or 12% approval, but they still claim the same acres they started out with, of which is a rather strange accomplishment, for either the bureau or Congress.

We've heard and read about conserving water. I have before me original plans for the Oahe project. It calls for 2,336 miles of canals, 2,804 miles of open drainage ditches, also 14,000 miles of closed drains, 3 dams, 3 reservoirs and 307 pump stations. And also, I have the proposed fish and wildlife acres in the Oahe project—their figures are 57,740 acres of which a lot of that is to be developed marsh lands. I wouldn't have any idea how much water would be lost thru evaporation in that sort of a project, but I do have an article that says the Butte Co. S. Dak. stock ponds loose enough water to supply Sioux Falls, S. Dak., with water for 2 and a half years!

If you are aware of the court action that took place in Mont. in 1951 you are probably aware that the Bureau didn't have much luck making their figures they used, stand up in court.

Yours truly,

DONALD G. MARTIN.

CAMPBELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE,
Mound City S. Dak., April 24, 1967.

To: Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

From: Pollock-Herreid Irrigation Board—Leslie Heisler, Chairman; Myron Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Lawrence Brandner, Member; Leslie Knudson, Treasurer; Karl Mitzel, Assessor; G. Martinez Senftner, Secretary; Michael Madden, Assistant Secretary.

We are highly in favor of the development of the Oahe Irrigation Project. Our people have showed great interest in the development of Irrigation in the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict.

Fifty-eight farmers made a bus tour to the Belle Fourche and Angostura Irrigation Districts.

Forty-two Campbell County people attended the National Reclamation Meeting at Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1966.

Excellent interest has been shown in State and County Irrigation Educational Meetings.

Our people are interested because the development of Irrigation will give our whole State and Area an excellent chance to improve our Economy and Valuation.

The new jobs and more opportunities that will be created through Irrigation will give the young people many opportunities that do not exist at the present time.

Campbell County people are working with the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict and the Brown and Spink County Irrigation Districts for the development of our area and the State of South Dakota.

We are most happy to endorse the Oahe Project and hope that the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee will take favorable action on this most important project.

Sincerely yours,

POLLOCK-HERREID IRRIGATION BOARD.
LESLIE HEISLER,

Chairman.

HERREID, S. Dak.,

April 26, 1976.

To: Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
From: Campbell County Soil and Water Conservation Board—Donald Wittmeier,
Chairman; Albert Berreth, Vice-Chairman; Lawrence Senftner, Treasurer;
Eugene Rau, Member; Ervin Grenz, Member; James Wientzes, Member;
Wallace Kusler, Member; Virgil Biel, Member.

Campbell County Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors are cooperating with the Pollock-Herreid Irrigation District, Spring Creek Watershed and Geological Survey. The District Supervisors believe that all Water Resource Developments that are built in the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict will make our area and the State of South Dakota a better place to live.

Our people voted 78% in favor of the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict's referendum last November 8th election. In voting for this referendum they feel that they have endorsed the Oahe Project and other small projects that are to be built in this area.

The completion of the Oahe Projects and other Irrigation facilities in this area will make it possible to maintain our schools, churches, and other community facilities that the people of this area have built.

Sincerely yours,

CAMPBELL COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD.
DONALD WITTEMEIER,

Chairman.

THE PIERRE NATIONAL BANK,

Pierre, S. Dak., May 5, 1967.

To the Oahe irrigation project hearing, Redfield, S. Dak.:

This bank is vitally interested in supporting the Oahe Irrigation Project now being considered by Congress.

We have been in business in this locality since 1889 and all during that period have worked for and with agriculture and we believe a project of this kind to be a great asset to the stabilization of agriculture which is most important for this community and especially agriculture.

As has been said many times, this part of South Dakota could be the bread basket of our country if we had the water. Certainly, we have the ideal soil and it is a project such as this that will make it the bread basket of the country.

We would estimate that 70% of our loaning capacity is devoted to agriculture so that it is a very important segment of our economy and we believe that with the completion of this project, the economy of this part of the country would increase by five-fold.

We urge your favorable consideration of this project.

Yours very truly,

CURTIS B. MATEER,
Executive Vice President.

CITY OF PIERRE,

Pierre, S. Dak., April 28, 1967.

To the Oahe irrigation project hearing, Redfield, S. Dak.:

Speaking for the City of Pierre, I would like to go on record as supporting the Oahe Irrigation Project now being considered by Congress.

Pierre is located in an area where the economical returns are now 65% from agriculture and 35% from the city itself. This city revenue was due to the large employment of the state and federal officials in the city. But, in turn, with most

state employees coming from rural areas, agriculture may make up 90% of the revenue.

The introduction of water to the lands of South Dakota will in turn, increase the revenue from the land by 3 to 5 times. This, in turn, increases the income of individual farmers and ranchers and this money will be spent in the State of South Dakota. As long as the proposed area is near, Pierre can expect a more stabilized year by year economy. The City of Pierre is in favor of the present legislation to finally irrigate 500,000 acres in South Dakota.

Pierre, being in a livestock area, we feel the irrigation project will stabilize the feed supply due to drought, and the livestock man will not have to dispose of his herds in drought areas and build up the herd in years of plenty. This develops a more even flow of productions and he is not a victim of low prices in times of drought and high prices at the time of recovery from severe conditions.

The cash grain farmer can also be more sure of his returns from labor and will be able to make plans for the future by this stabilized economy.

The water supply here in the City of Pierre is excellent and we doubt that the need will arise that the City of Pierre will be demanding more water from this installation as other cities of South Dakota will be doing. But, the city is concerned about the stability of agriculture in our area and its treasured farmers and ranchers.

Your favorable consideration of this project is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

GODFREY ROBERTS, JR.,
Mayor.

PIERRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Pierre, S. Dak.

Subject: Oahe irrigation.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee:

The members of the Pierre Chamber of Commerce fully support the first phase construction of the Oahe Irrigation Project. We feel that there is a great need for this project. It is our hope and the hope of the land owners in the counties living along the proposed Pierre canal that these facilities be designed and operated so as to provide water throughout the entire irrigation season. Approximately 80 farmers in this area have signed up indicating their interest in getting water for irrigation. Hughes and Sully County land is marginal. Average rainfall is 16 inches per year, 12 of which occurs during the growing season. Neither county has ever produced a full crop. Soils in the area are fertile and could produce feed stuff on a stable annual basis with the advent of irrigation. This will increase the tonnage of livestock produced in the area. The net effect would be to stabilize the livestock industry in this area and to stabilize the tax base. The availability of water, and the potential that it would create, and the sale of it would do much for the many small communities in this particular area which are almost totally dependent upon agriculture.

Further a younger generation of farmers is appearing, anxious to adopt new production techniques, to stay on the land, and to maintain the family farm. The effect here would be to stabilize the population of this area.

A great part of the land in use in this area is devoted to the raising of wheat which is a particularly hazardous crop, frequently destroyed by drought. The availability of irrigation would permit the conversion to many of the more "sophisticated" crops of higher value, providing yet another boost to the general economy. For these reasons we urge the initiation of phase one of the Oahe Irrigation Project as soon as it is possible to undertake.

Respectfully submitted,

PIERRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
JOHN H. HIPPLE,
President.

HUGHES AND SULLY COUNTY LANDOWNERS,
DEAN P. SORENSON,
State Representative, Hughes, Stanley and Sully Counties.

MELLETT, S. DAK.,

May 22, 1967.

GENTLEMEN: Those who vote on this project should first state the location of their farm and be one of those who sign the contract for the water when it comes, in other words be directly concerned with paying for this water, etc.

There were reports on Radio and T.V. by an engineer that there was oil seepage from the Cheyenne River which when put on the land year after year would form a petrolithic pavement of our farm land. This oil was found in all six dams which would be unsuitable for vegetation and poisonous for plant and animal life.

Why is irrigation necessary where we are now forced to hold land out of production because there is no market for the product? You know that irrigation is doomed to failure when there is no market for that product. If the products are to be given away who will pay for the cost of all this? With livestock, wheat and milk all selling far below parity even now there is no chance of getting even a fair price for any further increase.

Water is not a cureall because all these small towns will go down the drain. As it is now the water is forced on our land upstream for the use of Huron and the Fish and wildlife and they are not even capable to handle the pheasants. Why pretend to fight for Democracy in Vietnam when we don't have it here at home???

PAUL A. PETERSON,
Farmer, Spink County.

CITY OF CONDE,
Conde, S. Dak., April 22, 1967.

Mr. RAYMOND GALLAGHER,
Attorney, General Council of Oahe Conservancy:

I, Robert L. Taylor, Mayor of Conde, South Dakota, am happy to announce that I and the Council are very much in favor of and supporting the "Oahe Irrigation District" and encouraging its early development.

CONDE CITY COUNCIL,
E. M. PENCE, Clerk.

KIWANIS CLUB OF WEBSTER, S. DAK.,
May 2, 1967.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OAHE IRRIGATION UNIT,
Redfield, S. Dak.

DEAR SIR: Agriculture and Conservation Committee of the Webster Kiwanis Club and the Kiwanis Club of Webster as a whole, are wholeheartedly in favor of seeing the Oahe Irrigation Project started and completed at the earliest possible time.

As Kiwanians we have "We Build" as our motto. We feel the Oahe Irrigation Project will do much for the building of the future of South Dakota.

Sincerely yours,

ERNEST CHRISTENSEN,
Kiwanis President.

GLENN W. PHILLIPS,
Kiwanis Secretary.

NORMAN KUECKER,
Agriculture and Conservation Chairman.

HYDE COUNTY WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, OAHE IRRIGATION HEARING,
REDFIELD, S. DAK.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Hyde County Water Development Committee hereby wishes to be placed on record as being in favor of the development of the Oahe Irrigation Project at an early date.

VOTING RECORD

The land owners of Hyde County at the November General Election in 1960 voted 89% in favor of the formation of the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District.

November 8, 1966 the land owners of Hyde County voted 81% in favor of Contract Authority for the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District.

NEEDS SURVEY

Land owners in Hyde County owning land located near proposed Oahe Project, Highmore Canal System, in a survey conducted in June 1964 indicated they would use irrigation water if available to irrigate 8,190 acres, and also could use 480 acre feet of water for stock dam recharge.

FEED SUPPLIES

With the exception of irrigation of land located near the Highmore Canal, benefits to the county of Hyde will be in the indirect benefit category.

The production of beef, mainly cow calf operations, are hampered by drought three years out of ten in Hyde County. With the formation and operation of the Oahe Irrigation Unit, feed supplies, mainly corn and alfalfa, will be in good supply for drought years in Hyde County.

The construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit will stabilize the agricultural economy of the unit, and the State of South Dakota.

Employment in the area will be stabilized. A greater number of young people wishing to enter farming, will be accommodated by the construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

South Dakota the most agricultural state in the United States, will greatly benefit, as will the rest of the nation, with the development of the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

We hear considerable of late in regard to a world food shortage which we face in the near future. With an early target date for construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit a portion of this crisis could be avoided.

The Hyde County Water Development Committee strongly recommends the construction of the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

Elmer P. Faulstich, Chairman; Wm. Schuette, Everett Ellerton, Leigh Straight, Lawrence Stoley, F. U. Straight, D. E. Flynn, Clarence Bush, Jalmer Eldor, R. J. Very, James T. Olson.

BLACK HILLS CONSERVANCY SUBDISTRICT,
Rapid City, S. Dak., May 15, 1967.

WATER AND POWER RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE,
Senate Insular Affairs Committee.

GENTLEMEN: My name is Ed Glasgow and I am the Manager and Treasurer of the Black Hills Conservancy Sub-District was created by vote of the people of Pennington, Custer and Meade Counties of South Dakota in the General Election of 1964. Depending on the election district the people voted by a majority of 62 to 78% for a Sub-District through which to work for water conservation.

We are very pleased to see the progress in the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District area and wish to lend our whole hearted support. Knowing that it will be many years at the earliest before a gigantic project like this becomes a reality we would urge that everything possible be done to expedite the completion of the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

Our Sub-District is the only Sub-District west of the Missouri in South Dakota and our basic region for planning is the Upper Cheyenne River Basin. Within this area is the Belle Fourche Irrigation Project and the Angostora Irrigation Project. Although there seems to be limited possibilities for expansion of irrigation in our area we have had ample opportunity to witness the transformation that an irrigation project brings.

We feel, first and foremost, that we as Americans have a humanitarian responsibility to the rest of the world to use our resources in the wisest possible manner. Authorities predict with alarming clarity that the pressure on world food supplies will be inadequate meet the needs of our expanding world population. Our American philosophy and way of life is based on concern for the individual whoever and wherever he may be. The completion of the total project with

nearly one half million acres under irrigation to expand our food producing capabilities will be a major step forward to meet our American humanitarian responsibilities.

Second, we feel it is an appropriate investment of Federal funds. Our state is part of "America's Breadbasket" that has given our people to highest quality and lowest priced food of any civilization at any time. If our people are to continue to enjoy these advantages then this project should be rushed to completion. Other areas, including the great population centers, look to our more sparsely settled region for food and fiber and if we are to provide it then any investment on the part of the Federal Government is justified and will be amply repaid.

Third, we feel that this project should move ahead in order to use South Dakota's resources for the benefit of South Dakota. A number of factors has tended to limit the economic progress of our State and if we are to keep pace with the expanding economies of the rest of the states. Nowhere else in the country can this Missouri River water be put to better use than on South Dakota land that frequently lacks adequate water to reach its full potential.

In summary, it is the feelings of the officials of the Black Hills Conservancy Sub-District that the Oahe Irrigation Unit be given authorization for construction at the earliest possible date to realize maximum benefits for our nation and our state.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed GLASSGOW,
Manager-Treasurer.

CRESBARD SPORTSMEN'S CLUB,
Cresbard, S. Dak., May 22, 1967.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
Senator QUENTIN N. BURDICK,
Senator FRANK MOSS:

The Cresbard Sportsman Club which is affiliated with the South Dakota Wildlife Federation is concerned with and has taken an active part with all community and conservation issues within its own community and the State of South Dakota. Its members have been active and constructive in the formation and planning of the Oahe Conserving sub district and the Oahe irrigation unit. It has assisted in the research and planning of all water uses including fish, wildlife and recreation. It has proposed various possibilities of water uses after careful research and a number of the proposals have been included in the first phase planning of the Oahe Irrigation Unit. The Cresbard Sportsman Club has diligently worked for and unanimously supports the Oahe Irrigation Unit.

Research was conducted thru South Dakota Game Fish and Parks and Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Missouri Basin Study Group, Bismark, North Dakota for proposals for sub-impoundments on the proposed Cresbard Reservoir and Scatterwood Lake.

The Cresbard Sportsman Club has felt that the construction of Oahe Conservancy Sub-District was justified as an economic replacement to the State of South Dakota for the loss of the annual production of the many thousands of acres flooded by the 4 Reservoirs on the Missouri River and feel that its construction is a vital necessity to the welfare of the general public present and future.

Attached are three copies of resolutions adopted by Cresbard Sportsman Club on May 14, 1965.

Respectively yours,

HERMAN BITTNER,
President.

[Enclosures]

Subject: Scatterwood Lake area.

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, respectfully submits the following resolution on the Scatterwood Lake Area:

Whereas, residents within the Scatterwood Lake area are in dire need of more recreation, fish, and wild life, and

Whereas, the Scatterwood Lake itself, given an adequate reliable water supply, has proved to be one of our most productive fish and wild life areas within the state, and

Whereas, the proposed Oahe unit can provide the only presently known adequate or reliable source of water,

Therefore be it resolved by the Cresbard Sportsman's Club affiliated with the South Dakota Wildlife Federation that we request the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub District in cooperation with all involved governmental agencies make every effort to supply the Scatterwood Lake area with such needed water and all other necessary recreational construction in a manner which will assure residents, rural and urban alike, the greatest available benefits the area can provide, and

Be it further resolved by the Cresbard Sportsman's Club that copies of the resolution be presented to the following interested or associated groups:

Board of Directors, Oahe Sub District.

Department of State Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota.

Department of Sports, Fisheries and Wildlife, Missouri Basin Study, Bismark, North Dakota.

Bureau of Reclamation, State of South Dakota, Headquarters: Huron, S. Dak.

Brown County Sportsman's Club, Aberdeen, South Dakota (% Chuck Branson, Branson Culbert Company).

Ipswich Sportsman's Club, Ipswich, South Dakota.

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club of Cresbard, South Dakota, asks the above mentioned groups to support this resolution and send it to the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub District, % Fred Holscher, Faulkton, South Dakota, thus urging that all groups present a united front to make this project a reality.

Subject: Sub-impoundments on the proposed Cresbard Reservoir.

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, respectfully submits the following resolutions on the sub-impoundments on the proposed Cresbard Reservoir:

Whereas, the counties of Faulk and Edmunds will lose approximately 3000 acres of wildlife habitat by the construction of the proposed Cresbard Reservoir, the afore-mentioned acreage being some of the finest and most productive wildlife habitat in the two counties; and

Whereas, this loss of wildlife habitat has a direct effect on local economy because of the commercial value of local wildlife which has increased steadily under local sponsorship of out-of-state hunters; and

Whereas no stable water level is indicated to be possible on such regulatory reservoir; and

Whereas a sub-impoundment to the West of the dam-site area herein referred to as the Paul Creeks, which are under study at the present time by the Department of Sport, Fishries, and Wildlife, in charge of Missouri Basin Studies, (such sub-impoundments present the only possibility now known for a stable Fish, Recreation, and Parks installation); and

Whereas such sub-impoundment would not create additional take-areas or create any additional problems for the surrounding land owners.

Therefore be it resolved by the Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, that we request the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District in cooperation with all involved governmental agencies that such sub-impoundments be added to the initial Oahe Construction Project, thereby serving the needs of the area with a more stable, year-round and permanent recreational facilities.

Be it further resolved that copies of this Resolution be mailed to the following groups:

Board of Directors, Oahe Sub District (c/o Fred Holscher, Faulkton, S. Dak.).

Bureau of Reclamation, State of South Dakota (Headquarters, Huron, S. Dak.).

State Game, Fish, and Parks Department, Pierre, South Dakota.

Ipswich Sportsman Club, (c/o Everett Williams, Ipswich, South Dakota).

Department of Sport, Fisheries, and Wildlife, Missouri Basin Studies, Bismark, North Dakota.

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, asks the above mentioned groups to support this resolution and send it to the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub District, c/o Fred Holscher, Faulkton, South Dakota, thus urging that all groups present a united front to make this project a reality.

Subject : Stable Water Level in Proposed Cresbard Reservoir.

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, respectfully submits the following resolution on the Stable Water Level in Proposed Cresbard Reservoir :

Whereas, residents of Faulk County will lose thousands of acres of taxable land to the construction of the proposed Faulkton Canal, Cresbard Reservoir, Cresbard Dam, and Cresbard Canal;

Whereas, the county is entitled to construction or remuneration for these losses; and

Whereas, residents along or near the proposed Cresbard Reservoir have expressed the desire and need to move water from the proposed Cresbard Reservoir for irrigation and other water uses; and

Whereas, the need for removing such water and the increasing need for recreation cannot be served by a long period of low water level in the proposed Cresbard Reservoir;

Therefore be it resolved by the Cresbard Sportsman's Club that we request the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub District in cooperation with all involved governmental agencies that the proposed Cresbard Reservoir be stabilized at all times at a desirable level with all due consideration being given to the fact that during heavy water usage in the irrigation districts we can anticipate some reduction in the water level, but that after such periods, the reservoir be refilled to a desirable level so as to offer the greatest amount of benefits to the largest possible groups of water users.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be mailed to the following groups:

Board of Directors, Oahe Sub District (c/o Fred Holscher, Faulkton, South Dakota).

Bureau of Reclamation, State of South Dakota (Headquarters, Huron, South Dakota).

The Faulk County Steering Committee (c/o Royce Robers, Cresbard, South Dakota).

The Faulk County Water Users Association (c/o Royce Robers, Cresbard, South Dakota).

The Cresbard Sportsman's Club, Cresbard, South Dakota, asks the above mentioned groups to support this resolution and send it to the Board of Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub District, c/o Fred Holscher, Faulkton, South Dakota, thus urging that all groups present a united front to make this project a reality.

MELLETT, S. DAK.

WATER AND POWER RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE: In the Minneapolis Star of August 12th the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company made this announcement from the research department: One of the greatest artesian ground-water systems is beneath central South Dakota. The system comprises four giant "rivers" flowing eastward up to a mile below the surface. To those who desire irrigation by sprinkling this should be available without the present study and expense.

South Dakota has only three months of growing season, not twelve, and limited crops. The farmers have complied when given "wheat acreage allotments." They also have been paid to go into the soil bank to reduce the surplus, and the Reclamation Bureau urges us to grow more by an overwhelming burden of debt which the farmers of the Anti-Oahe Irrigation district cannot and do not wish to assume through their project of irrigation along the James River Valley.

Would you call it a consistent or helpful program, Mr. and Mrs. Taxpayer? You should approve a group who have protested by petition and verbally against farming by irrigation as proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

It is not a matter of what they do for us, but what it will do to us and every American Tax Payer today that counts.

A SPECIAL ADDITION TO THE RECLAMATION BUREAU

The farmer who owns and has paid his taxes on the farm deserves to know the truth about the real cost of irrigation.

A single man or woman owning a farm can have 160 acres, if they want irrigation. The rest of the irrigable acres can be held for 10 years and then be

appraised and sold to the highest bidder. The owner if he bids higher will be allowed to buy his own property back.

Not many know this little gimmick tied up with this huge project.

FLORENCE CADY,
Farmowner.

LAKE BYRON IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION,
Huron, S. Dak., May 8, 1967.

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR WATER AND POWER RESOURCES,
Redfield, S. Dak.

HONORABLE SENATORS: The Directors of the Lake Byron Improvement and Protective Association are happy to add their small voice in support of the Oahe Irrigation Project. Our Directors initially indicated their support for this project in a resolution transmitted to the Directors of the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District on January 11, 1966.

Lake Byron is presently the best available water-based recreation site in the Huron vicinity. The 150 cottage owners, their families, plus some 30,000 other visitors each year, enjoy the available recreation opportunities.

Lake Byron is scheduled to be an integral part of the Oahe Project. To date, two alternate plans are being considered for storage of irrigation waters and flood waters at this location. The alternate with a dam at the site locally known as the "Hogsback" is the plan recommended by our Association and favored by users of Lake Byron. The plan would protect, enhance and increase the recreation base for a sizeable portion of the population in Central South Dakota.

Our Association is aware of the many benefits that can result from this project. We favor the Oahe Irrigation Project but are hopeful that the final plans for Lake Byron will provide benefits for the maximum number of people.

Very truly yours,

L. ARDWAY BENNETT,
President.

LOWER JAMES CONSERVANCY SUB-DISTRICT,
Mitchell, S. Dak.

The Directors of the Lower James Conservancy Sub-District wish to express our firm support for the Oahe Irrigation Project.

The Lower James Conservancy Sub-District consists of 6½ counties—created by vote of the electorate in 1962.

(1) The Lower James Conservancy Sub-District represents ¼ of the drainage area of the James River in South Dakota.

(2) Its members are vitally interested in the upper area of the James River.

(3) We believe the authorization and construction of the Oahe Irrigation Project will be a tremendous advantage to the economy of the entire state of South Dakota.

(4) It will be valuable in the control of floods in the Lower James area.

(5) It will provide additional water to the Lower James Conservancy Sub-District for irrigation and municipal use.

(6) We wish to urge support of the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District.

(7) We have a good deal of good land in the Lower James Conservancy Sub-District, and with the Oahe project we hope to extend irrigation in our area.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE GRANGE.

GENTLEMEN OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE:

The South Dakota State Grange believes that the development of the Oahe District irrigation system should be given favorable consideration by your committee for several reasons. First, to further the economic growth of the State itself and retain its farm population.

A report prepared by the State resources and planning council at the University of South Dakota tells us that the State is not a rich one because it has to depend so much on Agriculture, along with wholesale and retail trades and services.

The report states that South Dakotas low per capita income, \$1,879 in 1964, one of the lowest in the Nation, arises from the heavy dependence on farming, services and trade, yet accounts for 71% of all employment in the State.

The Columbia Basin irrigation project in Washington State, had 608 farms in 1949. Now there are well over 2500 farms, as nearly a half million acres have been developed for irrigation. We believe the Oahe District, in comparison, can equal this figure. Adding millions of dollars in income yearly for the State of South Dakota and aid in keeping the young folks on the land in our state. There are at present only about 400,000 acres under irrigation in South Dakota, a state that relies heavily on Agriculture and is, on the average, short of rainfall.

Therefore, we urgently recommend your favorable consideration of this project.

VERNIE UNRUH,
Deputy State Master.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS,
SOUTH DAKOTA SECTION,
May 5, 1967.

On behalf of the South Dakota Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, I hereby offer our whole-hearted support to the Department of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain the first stage of the Oahe unit, James division, Missouri River Basin project, South Dakota.

The benefits to be derived as a result of this ambitious project are boundless. The enhancement to the economy of the area is of prime importance in the development and diversification of its agricultural, industrial, municipal and recreational purposes.

The above-named factors justify proceeding with this project in the most expeditious manner.

Sincerely,

ROBERT L. BROTSKY, P.E.,
President.

DAY COUNTY SPORTSMAN CLUB, INC.,
Bristol, S. Dak., May 5, 1967.

At the regular meeting, of the Day County Sportsman Club, held on May 2nd, 1967

Went on record, with recommendations that we the members of the Day County Sportsman Club, draw up a resolution, pin pointing our stand, relevant to Wildlife Habitat destroyed or ruined, by the Oahe Dam irrigation project.

RESOLUTION

Whereas: A question has arose, among the Members of the Day County Sportsman Club. What is going to happen, to the Wildlife habitat, destroyed or ruined, in the carrying out of this up coming, Oahe Dam irrigation project.

Be it hereby resolved, that the Day County Sportsman Club, and its members, take the stand, that there should be compensation, relevant to Wildlife habitat, destroyed or ruined, in the implementation, or the carrying out of this Oahe Dam irrigation project.

ALEX MAXWELL,
President.
LLOYD CAVANAUGH,
Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,
Huron, S. Dak., May 8, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources, the South Dakota Farm Bureau appreciates the opportunity to submit the following statement. South Dakota Farm Bureau since the adoption of the Missouri River Basin project in the Flood Control Act of 1944 has endorsed, by delegate action, all of the steps taken in the past to assure South Dakota its fair share of Missouri River water for multiple uses within the state.

The legislation and various steps taken to bring us up to this state of development have always received our support and, as the records will indicate, a tremendous support from the voters.

With the predicted increase in world population and the fact that we no longer have the large surplus we had in the past, offers a tremendous challenge to American Agriculture to feed a hungry world.

We feel that irrigation will help stabilize the agriculture in the proposed Spink and Brown irrigation districts and will mean a great deal to the economy of South Dakota.

Now that the authorization measures have been introduced in both houses of the Congress, and the plan has been approved by the Department of Interior, we respectfully request that the Bureau of the Budget approve the report, and we recommend passage of the authorization by the Congress.

We appreciate the opportunity to be able to file this report with the subcommittee, and hope that the authorization will receive favorable consideration.

THOMAS MCNENNY,
President.

BEADLE COUNTY CHAPTER,
IZAAB WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA,
Huron, S. Dak., May 4, 1967.

OAHE IRRIGATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT.

GENTLEMEN: The Beadle County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America fully reaffirms its position of full support to the Oahe Irrigation Project Development.

On previous occasions this chapter, representing nearly 300 members from Huron and the surrounding area, has endorsed the conservation and water use aspects associated with this project in line with its principles to preserve and protect our land, water, air and wildlife heritage. The efforts of this chapter in this respect are well known and are reflected in its many accomplishments.

The development of the Oahe Project will provide major benefits to this area by providing for additional wildlife mitigation and enhancement areas and aid in improving those already in existence. It will provide for recreational areas for hunting, fishing, camping and boating. Pollution, a major problem, can be alleviated thru water supply and management. Increased land use will bring more industry resulting in a larger population requiring increased facilities.

The Beadle County Chapter is dedicated to the preservation and development of all projects of this nature that will provide for this and coming generations all possible benefits making for a useful and generous abundance. We believe the development of this project will provide these benefits. We fully endorse and support an early start of construction.

Conservationally submitted.

GLEN W. BAUMAN,
President.

SPINK COUNTY SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
Redfield, S. Dak., April 28, 1967.

To: Senate Subcommittee on Irrigation-Insular Affairs.

Resolution passed by Board of Supervisors of Spink County Soil and Water Conservation District, supporting the Oahe Irrigation Unit, as it will pertain to conservation use of soil and water and related natural resources, in the Spink County Soil and Water Conservation District. And further the application of needed and beneficial conservation practices to the soils, and the conserving use of water and related natural resources.

MERLIN HAHN,
Chairman.

BEADLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU,
Huron, S. Dak., May 29, 1967.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR MCGOVERN: Beadle County Farm Bureau, with a membership of over 200, has voted to support the promotion and implementation of the Oahe Irrigation Project.

Although only a small portion of Beadle County is actually in the initial Irrigation Program being sought, the James River flows through the county where

the James Diversion Dam and Lake Byron are also located. We feel that along with the direct effects of irrigation, stabilized water supply, and recreational benefits; Beadle County will also receive many indirect benefits from this program.

Stabilized feed supplies, markets, water flow from upstream programs, additional labor demands for irrigation projects and other related programs and many other side benefits will serve to improve opportunities and developments made use of by our members both active and associate.

Therefore we support this Oahe Irrigation Project, and appreciate the efforts being made by this Senate Committee to consider our reaction and response to this program.

Yours truly,

FRED GUTHMILLER,
President.
RALPH BRAUN,
Vice-President.
CLYDE DILLMAN,
Secretary.

MADISON, S. DAK., May 22, 1967.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
Old Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

May I offer the following comments favoring the speediest possible development of the Oahe irrigation project?

No testimony with which I can disagree was offered in favor of the project. While I, living in Madison, expect no personal benefit, I adopt as my own the words of one witness: "I want to see my neighbors prosper." To all who pointed out the economic, social and cultural benefits the project will bring to our state and nation I can say only "amen."

The arguments extolling the growth in jobs, enhanced stability, economic expansion and the fact that our food "surpluses" suddenly disappeared and that we will see unprecedented demands for food both at home and abroad before water can flow were all well-founded.

One benefit was mentioned only briefly and needs more stress: the project's salubrious effect on wildlife and tourism.

Let me also point out that disaster dispersal of cattle herds due to drouth works a hardship on all livestock producers the nation over by wrecking prices and by creating a glut that must be consumed before prices can recover. Such dispersal destroys part of our productive plant.

DANA C. JENNINGS.

FAULKTON, S. DAK.,
May 22, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Senators, my name is Norman Paul. I am a farmer and Chairman of the Faulk County Water Users Organization.

My farm is located near and partially within the proposed bounds of the Crescent Reservoir.

My headquarters will be almost completely surrounded by the water in the reservoir. My brothers and I stand to lose a lot of good land by flooding.

I am interested and favor the proposed water development and plan on taking advantage of the water for irrigation. The Directors of our organization have devoted many hours toward hastening the day when this proposed project becomes a reality.

From the interest shown at the meetings of our organization many people of this community appear to be anxious for a stable water supply.

NORMAN PAUL,
Chairman of the Faulk County Water Users Organization.

BATH, S. DAK.

Water resources development is an important means to improve and stabilize the economy of South Dakota. Further work on irrigation, in connection with small watersheds, could result in a large increase in the annual average income of many South Dakotans.

Reading from the Congressional Record Tuesday April 4, 1967, Senator George McGovern said, "These small watershed projects reduce flood hazards and, in some cases, provide for water supply, water based recreation, and wildlife de-

velopment. Land improvement in the watershed to reduce erosion and sedimentation is also a part of the program".

The Oahe project when fully developed will be a multiple purpose project and while, being mainly for irrigation will also include watershed development.

The water could greatly improve agricultural productivity of our region. It also would increase volume of business in towns within or near the Oahe area and improve industrial and municipal water supplies—all contributing to improved community facilities.

Irrigation usually means more stability; ups and downs of income and production are less frequent and drastic than when communities are dependent upon the variability of dryland farming.

If we are not at war in Viet Nam, we are at war to combat the ravages of hunger. Food can be a more powerful weapon than guns in determining the future course of mankind. Quoting from George McGovern's May Newsletter "It is costing us \$300,000 to kill each enemy soldier." This would feed a lot of people.

LA VERNE SWENSON,

WOLSEY, S. DAK.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MCGOVERN: My name is Sam Nettinga. I live west of Wolsey, S. Dak. I am a farmer, having lived in this immediate area since I was four years old. I have seen the years pass—good and bad, wet and dry—and I want to say that it is much easier for a farmer to fight the elements of nature than it is for him to battle the elements of man. Prices have broken more farmers than nature has.

My question is this: Are we right to spend millions to develop this irrigation district and at the same time spend millions to take good land out of production? Down through the years the American farmers have been able (with some irrigation in certain areas) to produce more than the markets would bear, creating what some called a burdensome surplus. I'm wondering just what we are trying to accomplish—developing irrigation in one area and taking good land out of production in another. Seems as though our debt limit could be lowered if we would stop spending in these contradictory ways.

It looks to me that the individual farmers are being asked to develop this irrigation district, pay the bills, and then the corporations with their big acreages will just step in and reap the harvest. We know for a fact that a corporation has bought large tracts of land in that area and it seems to me that we are just developing the area for them when it is the family-type farmers that should be getting a benefit from it. I'm against these big corporations in Agriculture. It has been proved over and over again that it is the family-type farmer who is the most efficient and who adds most to the economy of an area.

There should be a law—and I think there is one—that would limit the acreage a person or company can put under irrigation. Let's put teeth into this law and see that it is enforced.

The Good Lord has given this land to us to use to provide food for the people. Let us not see just a few hogs take all they can get from the ground just to make themselves rich while the majority are forced into near slavery, thus forcing many more people into the large cities. We learn what this all means in the 5th chapter of Isaiah. Idleness is the root of evil.

Sincerely,

SAM NETTINGA.

Senator MCGOVERN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: On behalf of the South Dakota Council of Churches, we wish to commend the Senate Committee for making possible the Senate Sub-Committee Hearing on the Oahe Irrigation Project at Redfield, South Dakota, where you three distinguished gentlemen met with the local people and the community leaders who would find it impossible to go to Washington to attend the full Senate Committee Hearing on this project.

We wish to put ourselves on record as being in favor of this project because of the economic, moral, social, and spiritual benefits which will result from it and to urge your favorable consideration and support of this project.

We request the privilege of presenting a more complete statement of our position at the time of the Committee hearing in Washington, on behalf of the South Dakota Council of Churches and of the other church related church bodies. In that statement we will express in more detail the reasons for our support of this project, and the effect we believe it will have on this area.

Respectively submitted.

Rev. ORVILLE M. HEPLER,
Executive Secretary,
South Dakota Council of Churches.
Rev. WESLEY C. HUNTER,
Director, Department of Church and Community Relations,
South Dakota Council of Churches.

LANGFORD BOOSTER CLUB,
Langford, S. Dak., May 3, 1967.

JOHN SCHWAB,
Andover, S. Dak.

DEAR SIR: We were notified by our county agent about the hearing to be held on May 8 concerning the authorization of the first Oahe Irrigation unit of 190,000 acres. He explained to us what this meant and what we could do if we felt that we should support the creation of this unit.

The Longford Booster Club does hereby go on record in support for the creation and authorization of the irrigation unit. Many of the people in the trade community realize we are not included in this unit but they are hopeful that eventually to be a part of another irrigation unit.

Sincerely,

BRUCE A. LIKNESS,
Secretary.

HURON, S. DAK.

Hon. CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
Chairman, Water and Power Resources Subcommittee,
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: My husband, George Wolker, and I live on the shores of Lake Byron which will be a reservoir. We will gladly give up our beautiful home in preference to going through another period such as the "Dirty 30's".

Mrs. VERA E. WOLKER.

CITY OF DOLAND, S. DAK., RESOLUTION

I, Walter Hofer, Mayor of the City of Doland, am happy to present a resolution adopted by our Council, supporting the Oahe Irrigation District.

"Resolution: Be it resolved by the City Council, City of Doland, South Dakota, that we fully support the Oahe Irrigation District and encouraging its early development."

WALTER W. HOFER,
Mayor.

SPINK COUNTY CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE CLUB, INC.,
May 1, 1967.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SPINK COUNTY CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE CLUB

At the last regular meeting of the Spink County Conservation and Wildlife Club, a unanimous vote was cast in favor of the following resolution in respect to the formation of the Oahe Irrigation Project:

"Be it resolved that the Spink County Conservation and Wildlife Club is in full cooperation with the Oahe Irrigation Project as a great step forward in our community, however, it is considered important by this organization that great emphasis and action must be taken to conserve wildlife habitat for the continued development and propagation of fish and wildlife.

"Realizing that true wilderness areas and unadulterated waters are the only salvation of all wildlife, and, as much of the present wildlife habitat will prob-

ably be destroyed as a result of the construction of this project, it is with deep gratitude that sincere consideration has been given in relacing or duplicating the areas of natural habitat lost, along with the construction of this project.

"That wildlife and outdoor recreation plays an important part in the life of the people of this area, it is further resolved that full public access be granted to all areas of this construction, including hold reservoirs and canals, so that this outdoor recreation may be utilized by all."

LARRY BUCHHOLZ,
President.

RESOLUTION

The Tulare town board resolves to support the Oahe Irrigation District and encourages its early development.

We feel it will help the economy of our community since the project will practically guarantee a crop and because of this it will retain our present population and perhaps increase it: thus adding to our tax income, growth of our community, town and school. These are factors we need to keep our community, town and school from receding by holding our population.

ALVIN V. FOGLESON,
Chairman.
DONALD HOLTMAN,
Trustee.
Mrs. ELSIE M. ROSE,
Trustee.

FEDERAL LAND BANK ASSOCIATION,
Webster, S. Dak., April 28, 1967.

To Whom It May Concern:

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federal Land Bank Association of Webster, South Dakota, the following resolution was adopted:

"Be it resolved: that the Federal Land Bank Association of Webster, South Dakota, go on record to press for the start of work and completion of the Oahe Irrigation Project at the earliest possible time."

C. P. DUERRE,
Manager.

WEBSTER LIONS CLUB,
Webster, S. Dak., May 19, 1967.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OAHE IRRIGATION PROJECT,
Redfield, S. Dak.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Webster Lions Club of Webster, South Dakota has passed a resolution favoring the immediate development and completion of the Oahe Irrigation Project.

CHARLES E. NORBY,
Lions Club Secretary.

To whom it may concern:

Whereas, The Bristol Commercial Club is a non-profit organization, consisting of business men and farmers located in Bristol, Day County, South Dakota,

Whereas, One of our purposes is to Promote and Assist both present and New Industries, that would be beneficial to our area and South Dakota,

Whereas, Bristol is located in Day County South Dakota which county became a part of the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District by a large majority vote,

Whereas, South Dakota has given up several hundred thousand acres of land for present dams on the Missouri River,

Whereas, The area taken in by the Oahe Conservancy Sub District is known to have a large productive acreage of Classes 1, 2, 3 Land and that past history has proven that lack of water has been the areas main reason for crop failures,

Resolved: That we favor the starting of the Initial state of the Oahe Unit and that Congress appropriate the necessary funds which in turn would provide the area a dependable water supply for irrigation and would remove the present high risk associated with Dry Land Farming, and would also provide other

benefits such as Recreational Facilities, Fish & Wildlife Habitat, and a reliable source of Municipal Water Supply. In addition it would stimulate the production of new crops thus creating new industries and more jobs.

BRISTOL COMMERCIAL CLUB,
KERMIT E. HOLLY,
President.

FT. RANDALL CONSERVANCY SUB-DISTRICT RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District board of directors is seeking authorization for the proposed Oahe Irrigation Unit covering 190,000 acres representing the first stage of its development, and

Whereas, the proposed irrigation project, upon completion, would provide direct benefits to the immediate area while the indirect benefits would be extended to the far corners of the State and beyond its borders to other states, and

Whereas, the economy of the project area is mostly agricultural, subject to the hazards which accompany inadequate rainfall, and

Whereas, the growth and well-being of a rural area is dependent on the full development of its local principal natural resources—land, water, and people,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Ft. Randall Conservancy Sub-District board of directors that the Congress of the United States be urged to authorize the Oahe Irrigation Unit in order that plans may be readied for its development when Congress provides funding for the construction of this project.

The above resolution was adopted at a special meeting of the Ft. Randall Conservancy Sub-District held at Wagner, S.D., on the 16th day of May, 1967.

BEN J. IRELAND,
Chairman.

TED H. KRELL,
Vice-Chairman.

HAROLD WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

NORMAN LIEN,
Member.

MARVIN E. LARSON,
Member.

LYLE GARDEMAN,
Member.

CAM WAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., *Selby, S. Dak.*

Statement from Cam Wel Electric Cooperatives, Inc., Selby, South Dakota, a rural electric cooperative now providing electric service primarily to farms in the counties of Campbell, Walworth and Potter in South Dakota.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cam Wel Electric Cooperative Inc., held in Selby, South Dakota the 21st day of April, 1967, the following resolution was introduced and unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 6—Oahe IRRIGATION AUTHORIZATION

Whereas, the full development of the Oahe Irrigation unit and other irrigation is essential to improve the economy of South Dakota and in particular, the lagging farm income of the state and,

Whereas, rural electric cooperatives are continually losing farms and rural members each year which is creating a hardship because of lost revenue needed to repay the investment in facilities, and in Cam Wal Electric Cooperative's service area. We now have 14% vacant farms, and

Whereas, the productivity of farms on the fertile soils of South Dakota could be increased several times by the controlled application of water and thereby aid in the production of food so vital to the expanding world population, and

Now therefore, we, the director of Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, Inc., representing 1,600 members do most heartily support Senate Bill 6 authorizing the Oahe Irrigation unit and request that construction begin at the earliest possible date, and

Be it further resolved that, we urge the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to investigate the progress of the Pollock-Herreid irrigation unit

of the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict and speed its early authorization as this unit also will be beneficial to South Dakota and particularly to this area that is losing farms, small towns and the general economy is suffering; and

Be it further resolved that the construction of the Oahe irrigation unit be such that expansion and development of additional area in the future is not excluded and the maximum benefits be thereby derived.

I, Sam A. Merkel, Secretary of the Board of Directors of Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, Inc., Selby, South Dakota certify that the above resolution was approved at the regular Board of Directors meeting held April 21, 1967.

SAM A. MERKEL,
Secretary.

FAULKTON COMMUNITY CLUB,
Faulkton, S. Dak.

Whereas, the Oahe Unit is a plan proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation to irrigate 495,000 acres in north central South Dakota with Missouri River water; and

Whereas, the plan also provides water for municipal and industrial use, fish and wildlife developments at 28 locations, recreation and pollution abatement; and

Whereas, the State's economy will be improved by new markets and industries that will spring up in the area to meet the demands of the increased and diversified agricultural production; and

Whereas, the new industries will provide job opportunities to the young people of the State who presently have to go elsewhere to seek employment; now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faulkton Community Club urges early authorization by Congress of the Oahe Unit Irrigation Project as set forth in the Bureau of Reclamation reports of May and June 1965.

EMERY T. JANKORD,
MILLIE ROBERTS,
Secretary.

Senator McGOVERN. I think these hearings in the course of the day have been near perfect congressional hearings. I don't know what we could have done that would have made any substantial improvement on the record that's been made here this morning and this afternoon. The witnesses have done a superb job in the way they have organized and presented their statements.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has testified and to the organizations that are represented here.

We certainly want to express our appreciation to the hosts who were so kind and congenial to us here in Redfield, particularly to Mr. Jim Lewis and his staff who have done so much in the way of making arrangements for the meeting and lining up the witnesses and assisting every step of the way on these hearings today.

I want to express my own personal appreciation to Senator Burdick, who has stayed with us from early this morning through the hearings this afternoon. He is one of my very closest friends in the U.S. Senate and a man who will continue to be a tremendous help, not only to his own State, but to us here in South Dakota.

Some years ago he was an all-conference fullback at the University of Minnesota and I find that he is a great man to have on our side when you have some rough going ahead.

It is my own best judgment that we will probably get to full hearings in Washington somewhere between the middle and late summer.

I would anticipate perhaps in August or September that we could move ahead with extensive hearings in Washington that will build on the very fine record we have compiled here in South Dakota.

After those hearings have been held, we will compile the full record of what has been said here, of the statements that have been filed, and of the complete statements that are made in Washington by everyone testifying pro and con on this Oahe first stage project.

As soon as those hearings are printed, everyone who has filled out a registration form here in the course of the day will be sent a copy of those hearings.

Now, if for some reason or another your name is overlooked, if you will write my office in Washington, we will see that you get a copy of the full hearings.

We do want to express our appreciation to you.

I think it ought to be made clear to everyone here that we still have a long legislative effort ahead of us. After both the subcommittees and the full committees in Washington and the House and Senate have completed their work, the measure must then go to the floor for action in both the House and Senate. There will then be a conference between the two legislative bodies to work out any differences that might develop in the legislation as we move along and then it goes to the President for his signature.

That is the authorization process. After that is completed, we go through the appropriations process to get the initial appropriations needed to get the project under construction. That's a process that could involve several years, but I think we are talking about a proposal of such great value to our State and of such importance, too, that it is well worth the time and effort that we will be investing as a people and Members of the U.S. Congress in moving along.

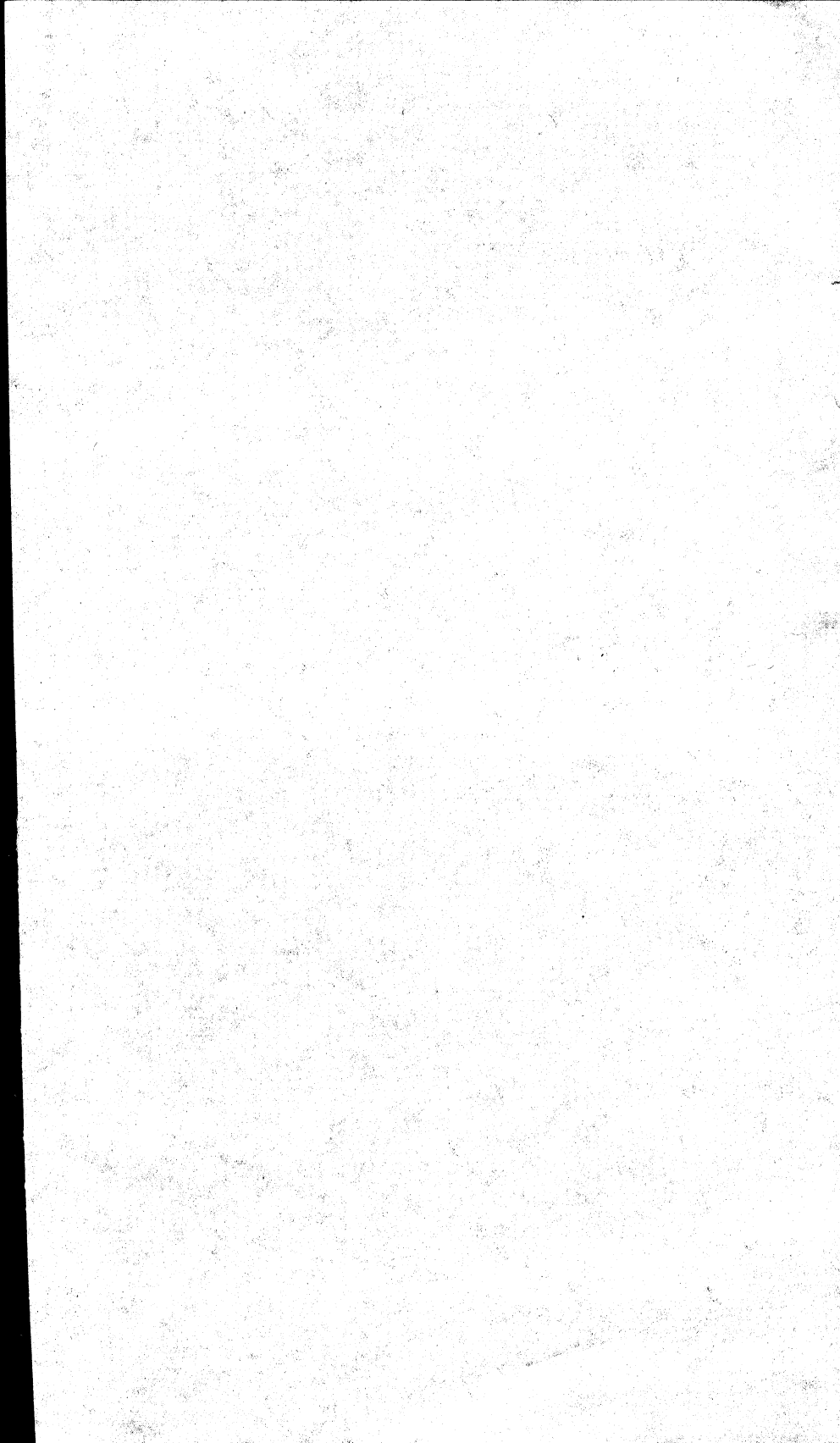
As we have seen here in the testimony today, it holds forth the programs in new progress in agriculture, holds forth the progress of many new business and job opportunities in our State, and a more dependable economy, both for the farmers and business people, aside from the many social gains on which we cannot put a price tag.

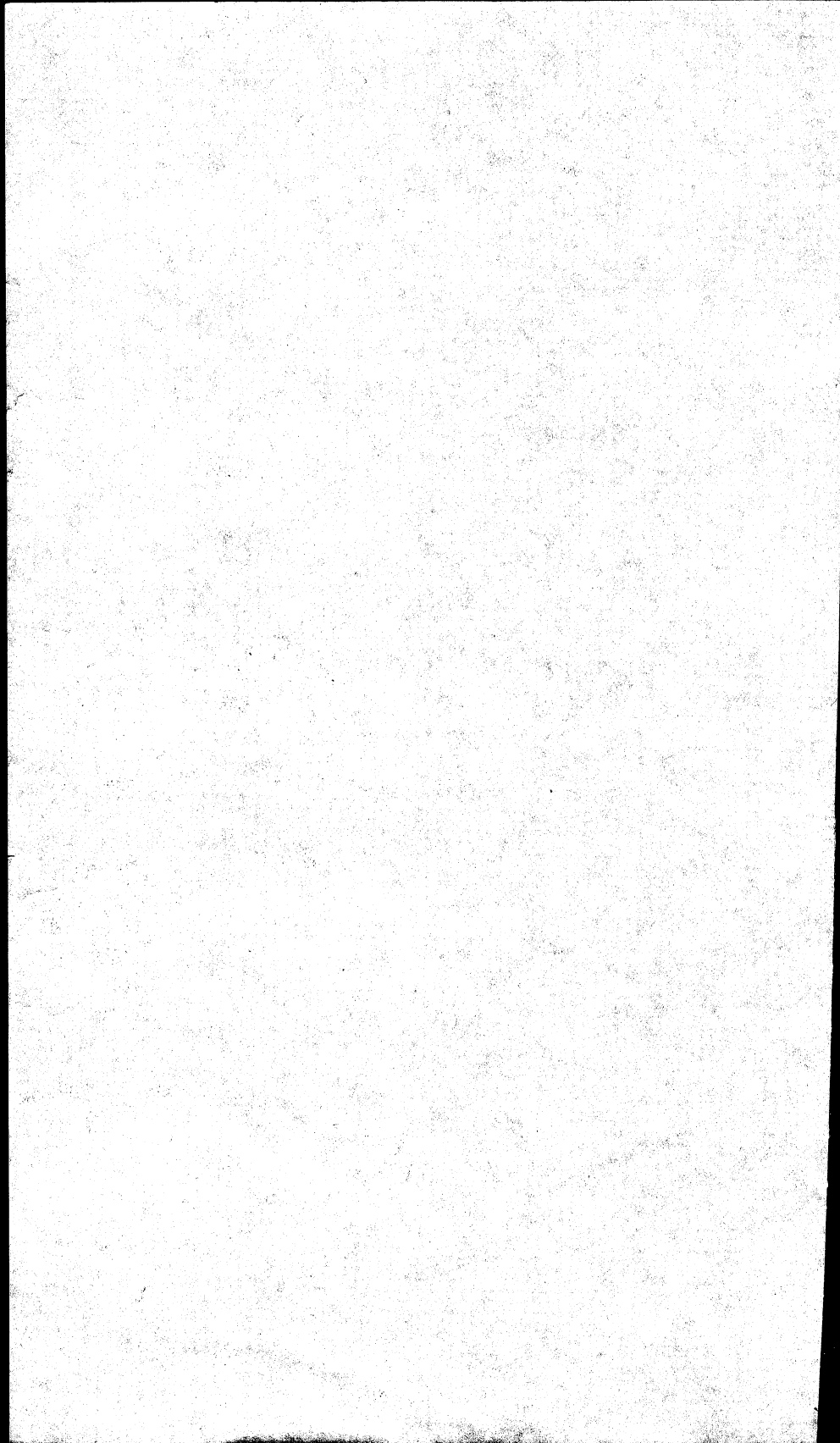
The provision of new jobs and recreation opportunities for our young people, the strengthening of our schools and churches, and other institutions across the State. I think all of these are vital to South Dakota's future and I look forward as one of your Senators in working with you toward those objectives.

Thank you ever so much.

(Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.)







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1870
The first of the year
was a very dry one
and the crops were
very poor.

The second of the year
was a very wet one
and the crops were
very good.

The third of the year
was a very dry one
and the crops were
very poor.

The fourth of the year
was a very wet one
and the crops were
very good.

The fifth of the year
was a very dry one
and the crops were
very poor.

